

Wisconsin Family Health Survey 1997

Bureau of Health Information
Division of Health Care Financing
Department of Health and Family Services

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December 1998

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Editor's note: As of September 28,1998, the Bureau of Health Information was created as part of a reorganization of the Department of Health and Family Services. The Bureau of Health Information comprises the former Center for Health Statistics and the Office of Health Care Information. The new Bureau is part of the new Division of Health Care Financing in the Department of Health and Family Services.

Introduction

Background. The Wisconsin Family Health Survey (FHS) was started in 1989 to collect information about the health status, health problems, health insurance coverage, and use of health care services among Wisconsin residents. This survey is conducted on a continuous basis, collecting information every month. A random sample of households is telephoned by trained interviewers, who speak with the household member most knowledgeable about the health of all household members. This respondent provides information for all people living in the household at the time of the interview.

Survey topics. To monitor health status and health care utilization issues, survey questions ask about the current health status, chronic conditions, and physical limitations of all household members. Data are obtained about the last visit to a doctor, to a dentist, and any use of an emergency room in the past year. Background characteristics, such as age, race, poverty status, and education, also are obtained for all persons in the household.

Health insurance coverage. The survey also provides information about health insurance coverage in Wisconsin, finding that 5% of the household population was uninsured for the 12-month period prior to the telephone interview. The U.S. Census Bureau's nationwide survey, called the Current Population Survey (CPS), found that 8% of Wisconsin's household population was uninsured during all of calendar year 1997. The two surveys arrive at different estimates of the uninsured population because the surveys are conducted differently (see Technical Notes). The CPS estimate should be used to make comparisons between states, while the FHS estimate is more appropriate for Wisconsin program purposes and studies focusing on Wisconsin because it draws on a much larger representative sample in Wisconsin than does the CPS.

The FHS also provides another estimate of people without health insurance. This percentage is based on a single point in time, rather than a year-long perspective. On any given day in 1997, the FHS found 9% of the state's population to be uninsured. This point-in-time estimate can be used for specific types of trend analysis, particularly because this question has been included in the survey since its inception.

All these estimates (5%, 8%, and 9%) clearly reflect a low rate of uninsurance in Wisconsin. In fact, the 1997 CPS results place Wisconsin as the state with the lowest rate of uninsurance in the continental United States (Hawaii's rate is lower). Because the Family Health Survey is not available in states other than Wisconsin, similar rankings are not possible with its data.

Survey design. The survey results presented in this report are representative of all Wisconsin household residents, who constitute approximately 97 percent of all persons residing in the state. (Non-household residents, including persons living in nursing homes, dormitories, prisons, and other institutions, constitute the remaining 3 percent who are not represented by this survey.) In 1997, the FHS interviewed respondents in 2,638 households; these households included 7,150 persons. Further information about the survey design is found in the Technical Notes.

Interpretive results. The tables in this report present estimated percentages of Wisconsin residents based on survey responses. These estimates should not be treated as precise results because they are derived from a sample. A 95 percent confidence interval is printed next to each percentage estimate; 95 out of 100 similar surveys would obtain an estimate within the confidence interval. Tables also include estimated numbers of the Wisconsin household population, based on the weighted sample. Both the confidence

intervals and the weighting procedures are described in the Technical Notes, as are variables used in this report, such as poverty status and metropolitan areas.

Contributors to this report. This report was written by Pamela Imm, Survey Coordinator, in the Bureau of Health Information; she also produced all of the data for tables and graphics and calculated the confidence intervals. Eleanor Cautley and Patricia Nametz edited the report. The project was supervised by Mary Erikson. Survey sampling and interviewing were conducted by the Wisconsin Survey Research Laboratory, University of Wisconsin-Extension. This report was made possible by the cooperation of more than 2,600 survey respondents. We thank them for their contribution to making this information available.

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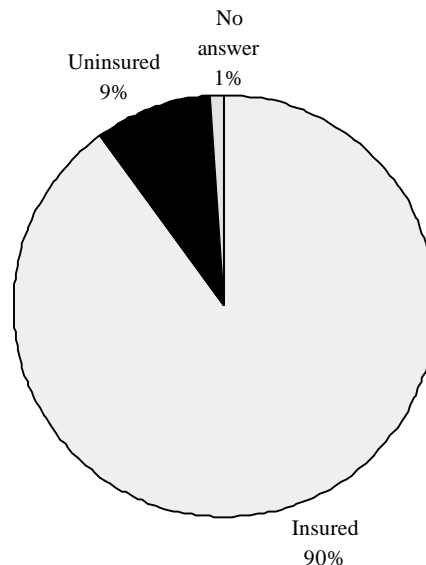
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Current Health Insurance Coverage

The majority of Wisconsin household residents have health insurance (counting both private and public coverage). In 1997, an estimated 4,536,000 Wisconsin household residents (90 percent) had health insurance and 456,000 (9 percent) did not. This estimate is a “snapshot” of Wisconsin at one point in time (Figure 1).

The highest rate of insured is among older adults (age 65 and older), among whom nearly 100% are insured. Adults 18-64 are less likely to have insurance compared with other age groups. People in minority groups and people in poverty are most likely to be uninsured (see Table 2, page 8).

Figure 1. Current Health Insurance Coverage, 1997



These data were obtained by asking respondents several questions about their current health insurance coverage. Separate questions were asked about Medicare, Medical Assistance, private health insurance and other kinds of health care coverage for each household member. Those without any current health care coverage were considered uninsured at the time of the interview. (See Table 1 for specific types of health insurance coverage.)

Current Health Insurance Coverage

Type of health insurance varies greatly by age. The majority of persons under age 65 have private insurance (Table 1). The majority of persons 65 and older have a combination of Medicare and private insurance (78 percent).

Table 1. Health Insurance Coverage by Type, 1997

Age Group	Type of Health Insurance											
	Private Health Insurance		Medical Assistance		Medicare		Medicare And Private		Other Combination		No Health Insurance	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
0-17	81%	(2)	9%	(1)	0%	(0)	0%	(0)	2%	(1)	7%	(1)
18-44	82	(1)	4	(1)	--	(--)	0	(0)	1	(--)	12	(1)
45-64	85	(2)	2	(1)	--	(--)	--	(--)	--	(--)	12	(2)
65+	5	(1)	1	(1)	11	(2)	78	(3)	5	(1)	1	(--)
Total	73	(1)	5	(--)	2	(--)	10	(1)	2	(--)	9	(1)

Notes: C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.

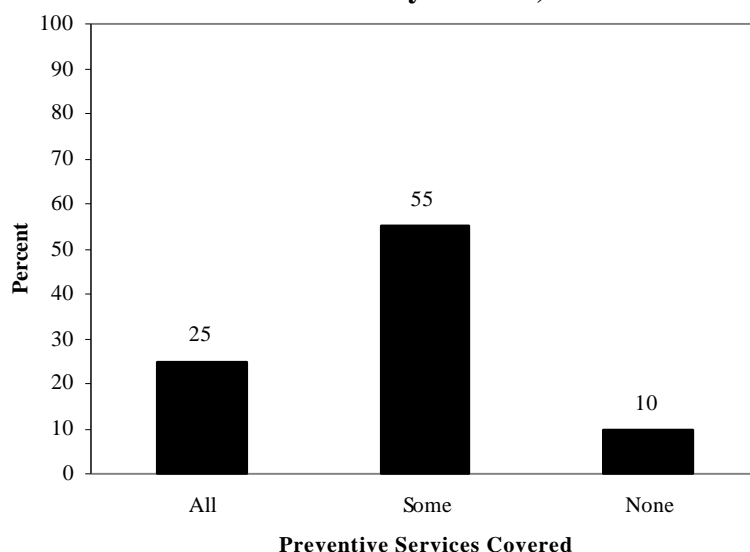
A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5%.

For 10 percent of persons with private health insurance, the costs of general checkups and other preventive services were not covered (Figure 2).

These data were obtained by asking privately insured respondents: “Does this health insurance plan pay for all, some, or none of the costs of general checkups and other preventive services when those who are covered are not sick?”

Note: Another 10% of those with private insurance did not know how

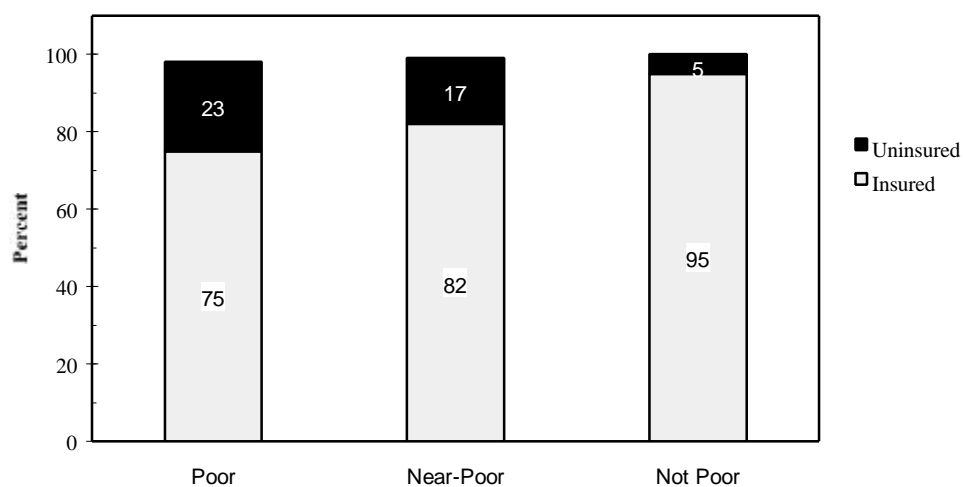
Figure 2. Coverage of Preventive Care Among Those Privately Insured, 1997



much of their preventive care was covered by their insurance.

The estimated proportion uninsured was highest among the poor (23 percent) compared with near-poor and non-poor residents (17 and 5 percent respectively) (Figure 3). The estimated number uninsured, however, was largest among non-poor residents (175,000) (see Table 2, next page).

Figure 3. Insured and Uninsured by Poverty Status, 1997



Current Health Insurance Coverage

Table 2. Current Health Insurance, 1997

	Insured		Uninsured			
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
Total	90%	(1)	9%	(1)	456,000	(33,000)
Age Groups						
0-17	92	(1)	7	(1)	99,000	(15,000)
18-44	87	(1)	12	(1)	233,000	(24,000)
45-64	88	(2)	12	(2)	121,000	(17,000)
65+	99	(--)	1	(--)	3,000	(3,000)
Summary Age Groups						
18+	90	(1)	10	(1)	357,000	(30,000)
18-64	88	(1)	12	(1)	354,000	(30,000)
Sex and Age Groups						
Male (Ages 18+)	89	(1)	10	(1)	185,000	(22,000)
18-44	86	(2)	12	(2)	124,000	(18,000)
45-64	88	(2)	12	(2)	59,000	(12,000)
65+	99	(1)	1	(1)	2,000	(2,000)
Female (Ages 18+)	90	(1)	9	(1)	172,000	(21,000)
18-44	88	(2)	11	(2)	109,000	(16,000)
45-64	88	(2)	12	(2)	62,000	(12,000)
65+	100	(1)	--	(--)	1,000	(2,000)
Race/Ethnicity and Age Groups						
All Ages						
White, non-Hispanic	92	(1)	8	(1)	356,000	(31,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	75	(3)	25	(3)	53,000	(6,000)
Hispanic	72	(7)	28	(7)	29,000	(7,000)
Ages 0-17						
White, non-Hispanic	94	(1)	6	(1)	67,000	(13,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	82	(4)	17	(4)	14,000	(3,000)
Ages 18-64						
White, non-Hispanic	89	(1)	10	(1)	287,000	(29,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	68	(4)	32	(4)	38,000	(5,000)
Residence						
City of Milwaukee	83	(2)	16	(2)	90,000	(10,000)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	92	(1)	8	(1)	210,000	(25,000)
Nonmetropolitan	90	(1)	9	(1)	156,000	(21,000)
Poverty Status						
Poor	75	(3)	23	(3)	100,000	(13,000)
Near-poor	82	(2)	17	(2)	167,000	(19,000)
Not poor	95	(1)	5	(1)	175,000	(22,000)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)						
Less than high school diploma	83	(3)	17	(3)	70,000	(12,000)
High school graduate	88	(2)	12	(1)	153,000	(19,000)
Education beyond high school	92	(1)	7	(1)	134,000	(19,000)
Employment						
Ages 0-17						
Live with employed adult(s)	93	(1)	7	(1)	90,000	(15,000)
Live with no employed adult(s)	79	(7)	19	(6)	9,000	(3,000)
Ages 18-64						
Employed full-time	90	(1)	10	(1)	197,000	(22,000)
Employed part-time	84	(3)	14	(3)	54,000	(12,000)

Notes: C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies.) See Technical Notes.
A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5%.

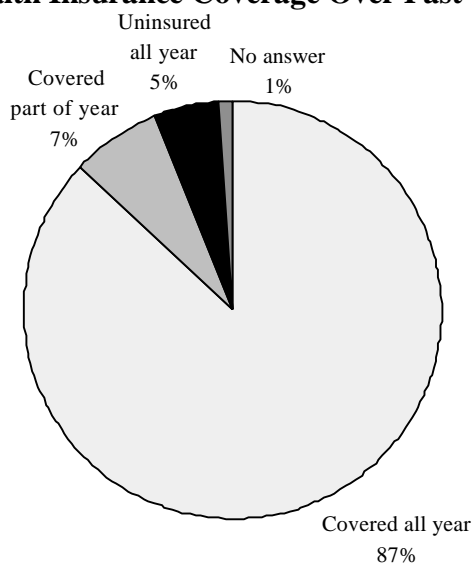
A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5%.

Health Insurance Coverage Over Past Year

The majority of Wisconsin residents had health insurance for the entire last year. That is, they were continuously covered during the 12 months prior to the survey interview. Those less likely to be insured for the entire year were adults aged 18-44, the poor, those in minority groups, those with less than a high school diploma, and children living with no employed adult (see Table 3, page 12).

An estimated 275,000 Wisconsin household residents (5 percent) had no health insurance of any kind during the past 12 months. Another 331,000 residents (7 percent) had health insurance for part of the year and were uninsured for part of the year. Together, an estimated total of 606,000 residents (12 percent) were uninsured during part or all of the past year (Figure 4). This group comprises people who were ever uninsured during the last 12 months. An estimated 4.4 million residents (87 percent) were insured for all of the past 12 months.

Figure 4. Health Insurance Coverage Over Past Year, 1997

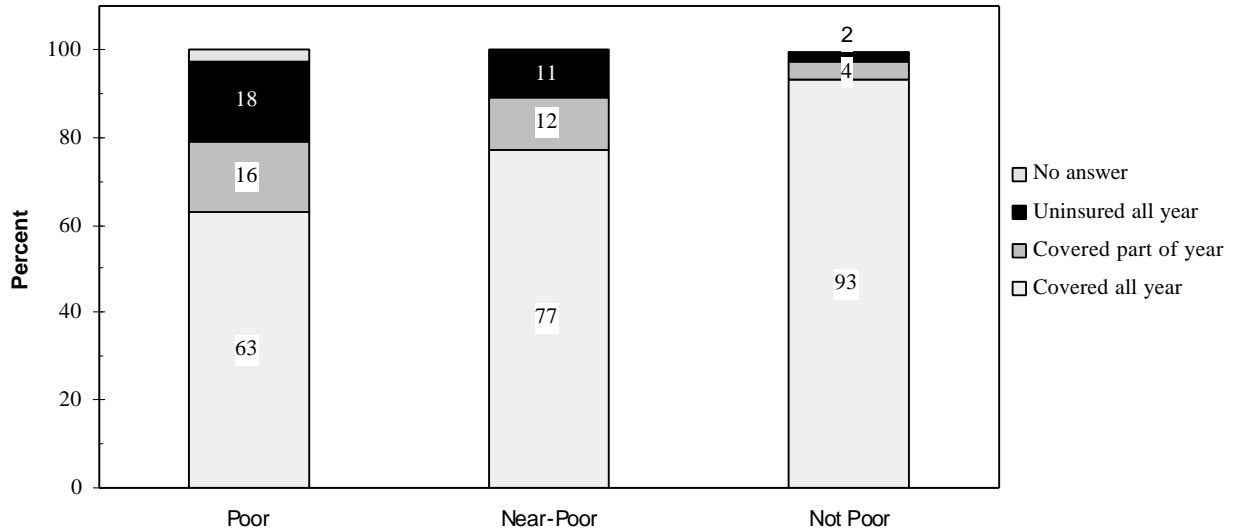


These estimates were obtained by asking survey respondents about their health insurance coverage for the 12 months prior to the interview in 1997. Respondents were asked: “*Thinking about all kinds of private and government health insurance, including Medicare, Medical Assistance, employer provided coverage, and insurance that you pay for, were you covered for all 12 months since (date one year ago), or covered for part of that time, or not covered at all by health insurance since (date one year ago)?*” (This question was asked for all household members).

Comparisons with national data. The FHS estimate of household residents who were uninsured for the entire year (5%) is smaller than the estimate of persons uninsured during all of 1997 produced by the U.S. Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey (8%). The differences between these two estimates are due primarily to differing survey methods (see Technical Notes, pp. 46-47). Current Population Survey results are useful in comparing Wisconsin to other states, while the FHS estimate is preferable for descriptions of Wisconsin’s population.

The poor and near-poor are disproportionately uninsured. Thirty-four percent of the poor and 23 percent of the near-poor were uninsured during part or all of the past year. In comparison, only 6 percent of non-poor residents had been uninsured during the year (Figure 5). Overall, 12 percent of all Wisconsin residents were uninsured during part or all of the past year (see Table 3, page 12).

**Figure 5. Health Insurance Coverage Over Past Year
by Poverty Status, 1997**



About 50,000 Wisconsin children (4 percent of the 1,341,000 children in the state) lived in households with no employed adults in 1997. Twenty-four percent of these children (12,000) had no health insurance during part or all of the past year (Figure 6). This contrasts with children living in households where one or more adults were employed; 10 percent of these children (124,000) were without insurance during part or all of the past year. Thus, despite the higher proportion uninsured among children living with unemployed adults, the vast majority of uninsured children in Wisconsin live in a household with an employed adult (see Table 3, next page).

Figure 6. Children Uninsured for Part or All of Past Year by Adult Employment Status, 1997

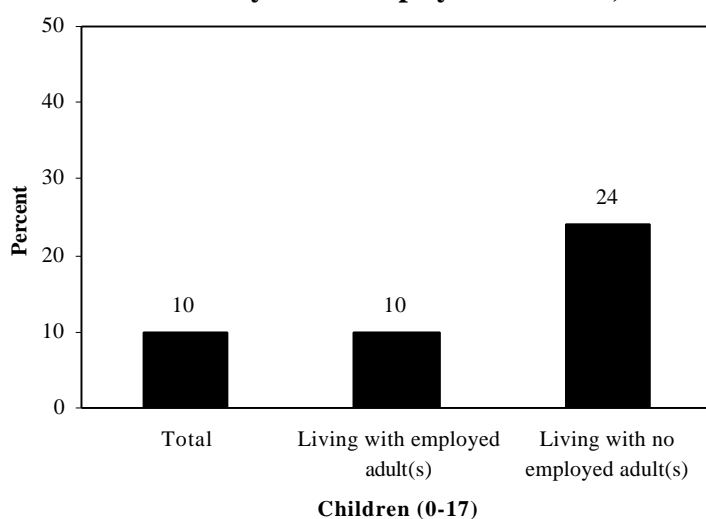


Table 3. Health Insurance Coverage Over Past Year, 1997

	Insured All Year		Insured Part of Year			
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent		Number	(C.I.±)
Total	87%	(1)	7%	(1)	331,000	(29,000)
Age Groups						
0-17	90	(1)	7	(1)	93,000	(15,000)
18-44	81	(1)	10	(1)	196,000	(23,000)
45-64	90	(2)	3	(1)	35,000	(10,000)
65+	98	(1)	1	(1)	8,000	(4,000)
Summary Age Groups						
18+	86	(1)	6	(1)	238,000	(25,000)
18-64	84	(1)	8	(1)	231,000	(25,000)
Sex and Age Groups						
Male (Ages 18+)	85	(1)	6	(1)	113,000	(17,000)
18-44	79	(2)	10	(2)	98,000	(16,000)
45-64	91	(2)	3	(1)	14,000	(6,000)
65+	99	(1)	--	(1)	1,000	(1,000)
Female (Ages 18+)	87	(1)	7	(1)	126,000	(18,000)
18-44	83	(2)	10	(2)	98,000	(16,000)
45-64	89	(2)	4	(1)	21,000	(7,000)
65+	97	(1)	2	(1)	7,000	(4,000)
Race/Ethnicity and Age Groups						
All Ages						
White, non-Hispanic	89	(1)	6	(1)	279,000	(28,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	72	(3)	11	(2)	24,000	(4,000)
Hispanic	66	(7)	12	(5)	13,000	(5,000)
Ages 0-17						
White, non-Hispanic	92	(1)	6	(1)	70,000	(14,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	82	(4)	10	(3)	8,000	(3,000)
Ages 18-64						
White, non-Hispanic	85	(1)	7	(1)	202,000	(24,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	63	(4)	13	(3)	15,000	(4,000)
Residence						
City of Milwaukee	80	(2)	9	(1)	51,000	(8,000)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	89	(1)	6	(1)	157,000	(22,000)
Nonmetropolitan	87	(1)	7	(1)	122,000	(19,000)
Poverty Status						
Poor	63	(3)	16	(3)	71,000	(11,000)
Near-poor	77	(2)	12	(2)	115,000	(16,000)
Not poor	93	(1)	4	(1)	143,000	(20,000)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)						
Less than high school diploma	80	(3)	4	(2)	18,000	(7,000)
High school graduate	84	(2)	8	(1)	101,000	(16,000)
Education beyond high school	89	(1)	6	(1)	119,000	(18,000)
Employment						
Ages 0-17						
Live with employed adult(s)	90	(1)	7	(1)	85,000	(14,000)
Live with no employed adults(s)	75	(7)	16	(6)	8,000	(3,000)
Ages 18-64						
Employed full-time	86	(1)	8	(1)	158,000	(21,000)
Employed part-time	82	(3)	5	(2)	19,000	(7,000)

Health Insurance Coverage Over Past Year

Table 3. Health Insurance Coverage Over Past Year, 1997 (continued)

	Uninsured All Year			
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
Total	5%	(1)	275,000	(26,000)
Age Groups				
0-17	3	(1)	43,000	(10,000)
18-44	8	(1)	161,000	(21,000)
45-64	6	(1)	65,000	(13,000)
65+	1	(1)	5,000	(3,000)
Summary Age Groups				
18+	6	(1)	232,000	(25,000)
18-64	7	(1)	227,000	(25,000)
Sex and Age Groups				
Male (Ages 18+)	7	(1)	128,000	(19,000)
18-44	9	(2)	92,000	(16,000)
45-64	7	(2)	33,000	(10,000)
65+	1	(1)	2,000	(2,000)
Female (Ages 18+)	5	(1)	104,000	(16,000)
18-44	7	(1)	69,000	(13,000)
45-64	6	(2)	32,000	(9,000)
65+	1	(1)	2,000	(2,000)
Race/Ethnicity and Age Groups				
All Ages				
White, non-Hispanic	5	(1)	210,000	(24,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	15	(2)	32,000	(5,000)
Hispanic	21	(6)	22,000	(6,000)
Ages 0-17				
White, non-Hispanic	2	(1)	25,000	(8,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	8	(3)	6,000	(2,000)
Ages 18-64				
White, non-Hispanic	7	(1)	182,000	(23,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	21	(4)	25,000	(4,000)
Residence				
City of Milwaukee	10	(1)	54,000	(8,000)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	5	(1)	125,000	(19,000)
Nonmetropolitan	6	(1)	96,000	(17,000)
Poverty Status				
Poor	18	(3)	77,000	(12,000)
Near-poor	11	(2)	109,000	(16,000)
Not poor	2	(--)	78,000	(15,000)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)				
Less than high school diploma	15	(3)	64,000	(12,000)
High school graduate	7	(1)	97,000	(16,000)
Education beyond high school	4	(1)	71,000	(14,000)
Employment				
Ages 0-17				
Live with employed adult(s)	3	(1)	39,000	(10,000)
Live with no employed adults(s)	8	(5)	4,000	(2,000)
Ages 18-64				
Employed full-time	6	(1)	119,000	(18,000)
Employed part-time	10	(3)	39,000	(10,000)

Notes: C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.
A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5%.

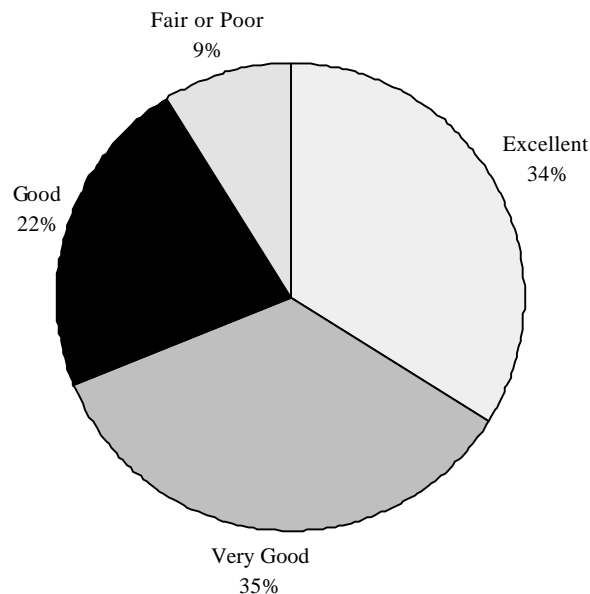
A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5%.

Perceived Health Status

In 1997, only 9 percent of the Wisconsin population was considered to be in fair or poor health (440,000 persons) (Figure 7). In general, reported health status worsens with advancing age. The majority of Wisconsin residents under age 65 were reported to be in excellent or very good health. While only 2 percent of children were reported in fair or poor health in 1997, 27 percent of older adults (age 65+) were so reported. Besides the elderly, those more likely to report fair or poor health are the poor and the less educated (see Table 4, page 17).

Perceived health status is included in many health surveys because it is strongly related to individual health outcomes. For example, persons in fair or poor health are more likely to have been hospitalized during the past year than persons in excellent to good health.

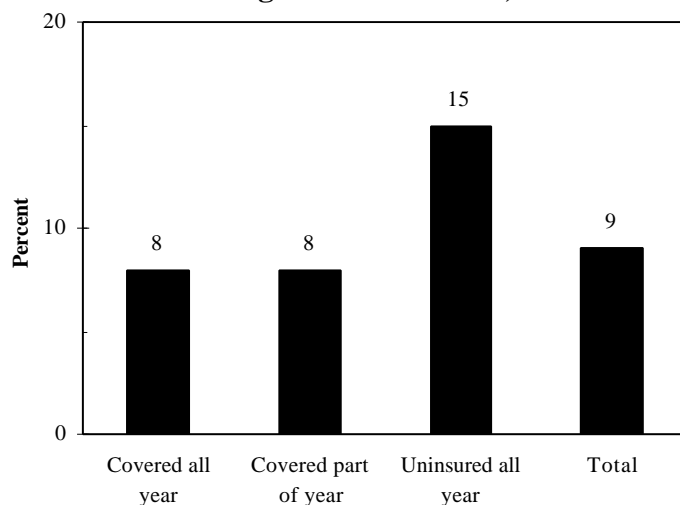
Figure 7. Perceived Health Status, 1997



These data are obtained from respondents by asking: “*In general, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?*” Respondents are also asked to report on the perceived health status of all other household members.

Health status is related to health insurance coverage and poverty status. Those uninsured all year were more likely to be in fair or poor health (15%) than persons with health insurance coverage (Figure 8 and Table 4, next page).

Figure 8. Fair or Poor Health by Insurance Coverage Over Past Year, 1997



The poor and near-poor were also more likely to be in fair or poor health (25% and 11%, respectively) than were non-poor persons (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Fair or Poor Health by Poverty Status, 1997

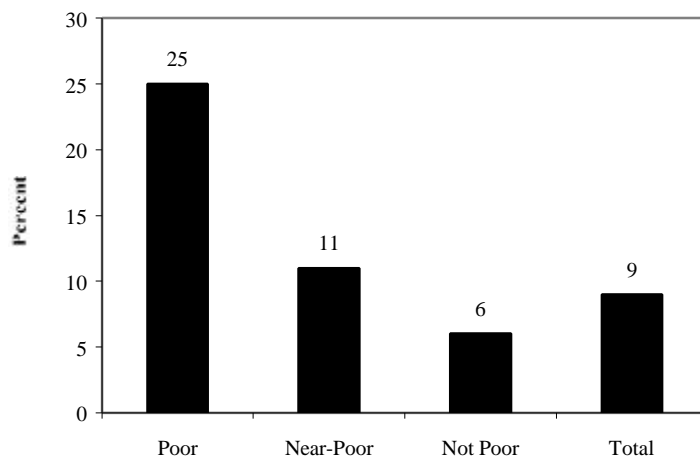


Table 4. Perceived Health Status, 1997

	Excellent		Very Good		Good	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
Total	34%	(1)	35%	(1)	22%	(1)
Age Groups						
0-17	52	(2)	32	(2)	13	(1)
18-44	36	(2)	38	(2)	21	(2)
45-64	23	(2)	36	(3)	29	(2)
65+	11	(2)	29	(3)	33	(3)
Summary Age Groups						
18+	28	(1)	36	(1)	25	(1)
18-64	31	(1)	37	(1)	24	(1)
Sex and Age Groups						
Male						
0-17	50	(3)	33	(3)	14	(2)
18-44	38	(3)	36	(3)	22	(2)
45-64	23	(3)	34	(4)	31	(3)
65+	11	(3)	27	(4)	35	(5)
Female						
0-17	54	(3)	31	(3)	12	(2)
18-44	33	(2)	39	(3)	20	(2)
45-64	23	(3)	39	(4)	27	(3)
65+	11	(3)	30	(4)	31	(4)
Race/Ethnicity						
White, non-Hispanic	35	(1)	36	(1)	21	(1)
Black, non-Hispanic	27	(3)	23	(3)	35	(3)
Hispanic	28	(6)	29	(7)	32	(7)
Residence						
City of Milwaukee	28	(2)	30	(2)	29	(2)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	36	(2)	36	(2)	20	(1)
Nonmetropolitan	33	(2)	34	(2)	23	(2)
Poverty Status						
Poor	21	(3)	18	(3)	36	(3)
Near-poor	27	(2)	34	(2)	27	(2)
Not poor	38	(1)	37	(1)	19	(1)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)						
Less than high school diploma	14	(3)	18	(3)	38	(4)
High school graduate	22	(2)	38	(2)	29	(2)
Education beyond high school	35	(2)	38	(2)	20	(2)
Employment						
Ages 0-17						
Live with employed adult(s)	53	(2)	33	(2)	13	(1)
Live with no employed adult(s)	40	(8)	24	(7)	24	(7)
Ages 18-64						
Employed full-time	33	(2)	39	(2)	23	(2)
Employed part-time	32	(4)	39	(4)	24	(4)
Insurance Coverage over Past Year						
Covered all year	36	(1)	35	(1)	21	(1)
Covered part of year	28	(4)	41	(4)	23	(4)
Uninsured all year	23	(4)	24	(4)	38	(5)

Perceived Health Status

Table 4. Perceived Health Status, 1997 (continued)

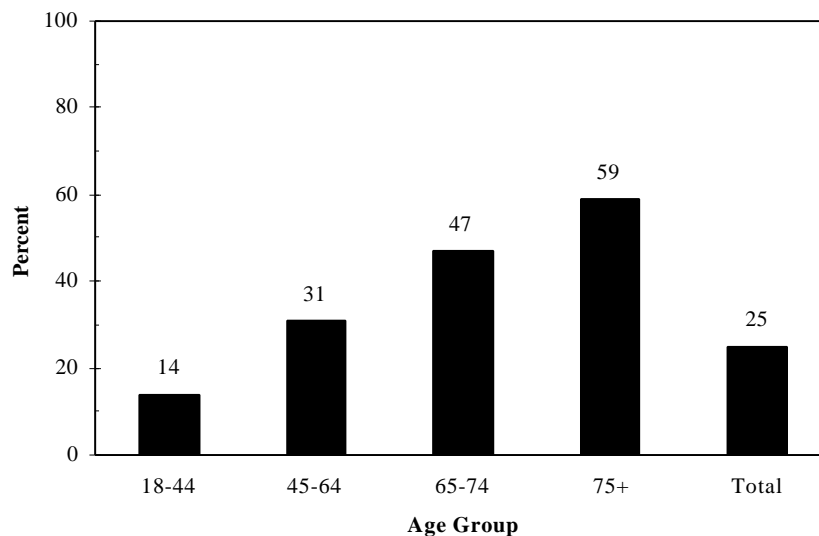
	Fair or Poor			
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
Total	9%	(1)	440,000	(33,000)
Age Groups				
0-17	2	(1)	31,000	(9,000)
18-44	6	(1)	115,000	(18,000)
45-64	12	(2)	124,000	(18,000)
65+	27	(3)	171,000	(18,000)
Summary Age Groups				
18+	11	(1)	409,000	(32,000)
18-64	8	(1)	239,000	(25,000)
Sex and Age Groups				
Male				
0-17	2	(1)	15,000	(6,000)
18-44	4	(1)	39,000	(11,000)
45-64	13	(3)	65,000	(13,000)
65+	27	(4)	73,000	(11,000)
Female				
0-17	2	(1)	16,000	(6,000)
18-44	8	(1)	76,000	(14,000)
45-64	11	(2)	59,000	(12,000)
65+	27	(4)	98,000	(13,000)
Race/Ethnicity				
White, non-Hispanic	8	(1)	380,000	(32,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	15	(2)	32,000	(5,000)
Hispanic	12	(5)	13,000	(5,000)
Residence				
City of Milwaukee	13	(2)	69,000	(9,000)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	8	(1)	208,000	(25,000)
Nonmetropolitan	9	(1)	163,000	(21,000)
Poverty Status				
Poor	25	(3)	107,000	(13,000)
Near-poor	11	(2)	112,000	(16,000)
Not poor	6	(1)	200,000	(20,000)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)				
Less than high school diploma	30	(4)	126,000	(15,000)
High school graduate	10	(1)	139,000	(19,000)
Education beyond high school	7	(1)	145,000	(20,000)
Employment				
Ages 0-17				
Live with employed adult(s)	2	(1)	25,000	(8,000)
Live with no employed adult(s)	12	(5)	6,000	(3,000)
Ages 18-64				
Employed full-time	5	(1)	95,000	(16,000)
Employed part-time	5	(2)	21,000	(8,000)
Insurance Coverage over Past Year				
Covered all year	8	(1)	367,000	(30,000)
Covered part of year	8	(2)	27,000	(8,000)
Uninsured all year	15	(3)	41,000	(9,000)

Note: C. =Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.

Health-Related Limitations Among Adults

An estimated one-quarter of the adult household population in Wisconsin (921,000) has one or more of four physical limitations due to health problems: trouble walking one block; climbing stairs; bending, lifting or stooping; and/or doing vigorous exercise or work (Figure 10 and Table 5, next page). This percentage increases dramatically with age: 14 percent of 18-44-year-olds versus 59 percent of adults age 75 and older have one or more of these physical limitations. Several population groups are more likely to have a physical limitation: those who are black, those who are poor, and those with less education (Table 7, page 22).

Figure 10. Adults Reported to Have at Least One of Four Physical Limitations, by Age, 1997



These estimates were obtained by asking respondents whether any adult household member had trouble with four physical activities because of a health problem. Four separate questions were asked: *“Do any of the adults in your household have trouble walking one block because of a health problem?...walking uphill or climbing a few flights of stairs because of a health problem?...bending, lifting or stooping because of a health problem?...doing vigorous exercise or work, such as lifting heavy objects, running, or participating in strenuous sports because of a health problem?”* These four responses were combined to estimate the percent and number of adults who have one or more of these physical limitations. (See Table 5, next page and Figure 10.)

Physical limitations in walking; climbing stairs; lifting, bending or stooping; and doing vigorous exercise become more prevalent with increasing age. For example, 3 percent of persons aged 18-44 versus 31 percent of persons aged 75 and older have difficulty in walking one block (Table 5).

Table 5. Adults with Specific Physical Limitations, by Age, 1997

Age Group	Walking One Block		Climbing Few Flights Of Stairs		Bending, Lifting, Stooping		Doing Vigorous Exercise	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
18-44	3%	(1)	5%	(1)	8%	(1)	10%	(1)
45-64	7	(1)	12	(2)	16	(2)	23	(2)
65-74	21	(3)	29	(4)	27	(4)	38	(4)
75+	31	(5)	36	(5)	29	(5)	45	(5)
Total (age 18+)	8	(1)	12	(1)	14	(1)	19	(1)

Age Group	At Least One of These Four Physical Limitations			
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
18-44	14%	(1)	272,000	(26,000)
45-64	31	(2)	321,000	(25,000)
65-74	47	(4)	180,000	(15,000)
75+	59	(5)	148,000	(12,000)
Total (age 18+)	25	(1)	921,000	(44,000)

At any given time in 1997, an estimated 240,000 adults in Wisconsin households (7 percent) were kept from working at a job, doing work around the house or going to school because of a health problem (Table 6). This estimate may include both persons permanently unable to do these things and those whose disability is temporary.

About 87,000 adults in Wisconsin households (2 percent) had trouble with eating, dressing, bathing, or using the toilet because of a health problem (Table 6).

Table 6. Adults with Other Health-Related Limitations, by Age, 1997

Age Group	Kept from Working at Job or at Home				Had Trouble Eating, Dressing, Bathing, or Using Toilet			
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
18-44	3%	(1)	64,000	(13,000)	1%	(--)	18,000	(7,000)
45-64	8	(1)	79,000	(14,000)	3	(1)	33,000	(9,000)
65-74	14	(3)	53,000	(10,000)	5	(2)	18,000	(6,000)
75+	18	(4)	45,000	(10,000)	8	(3)	19,000	(2,000)
Total (age 18+)	7	(1)	240,000	(25,000)	2	(--)	87,000	(15,000)

Notes: A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5 percent.

C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.

Respondents were asked about limitations restricting the ability of adult household members to work or attend school: “*Does the health of any of the adults in your household keep them from working at a job, doing work around the house, or going to school?*”

Respondents were also asked about limitations with activities of daily living: “*Do any of the adults in your household have trouble eating, dressing, bathing or using the toilet because of a health problem?*” This question can be considered a measure of disability.

Health-Related Limitations Among Adults

Table 7. Health-Related Limitations Among Adults, 1997

	Has One Or More Physical Limitations*		Kept from Working at Job or Home		Has Trouble with Eating, Dressing, Bathing, Using Toilet	
	Percent 25%	(C.I.±) (1)	Percent 7%	(C.I.±) (1)	Percent 2%	(C.I.±) (--)
Total (age 18+)						
Age Groups						
18-44	14	(1)	3	(1)	1	(--)
45-64	31	(2)	8	(1)	3	(1)
65-74	47	(4)	14	(3)	5	(2)
75+	59	(5)	18	(4)	8	(3)
Summary Age Groups						
18-64	19	(1)	5	(1)	2	(--)
65+	52	(3)	16	(2)	6	(1)
Sex and Age Groups						
Male (Ages 18+)	21	(2)	5	(1)	2	(1)
18-44	10	(2)	2	(1)	1	(--)
45-64	27	(3)	7	(2)	3	(1)
65-74	44	(6)	13	(4)	5	(3)
75+	54	(8)	17	(6)	8	(4)
Female (Ages 18+)	29	(2)	8	(1)	3	(1)
18-44	17	(2)	4	(1)	1	(1)
45-64	34	(3)	9	(2)	3	(1)
65-74	51	(5)	15	(4)	4	(2)
75+	61	(6)	19	(5)	7	(3)
Race/Ethnicity						
White, non-Hispanic	24	(1)	6	(1)	2	(--)
Black, non-Hispanic	43	(4)	10	(3)	5	(2)
Residence						
City of Milwaukee	34	(3)	9	(2)	3	(1)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	23	(2)	6	(1)	2	(1)
Nonmetropolitan	26	(2)	7	(1)	2	(1)
Poverty Status						
Poor	54	(5)	19	(4)	8	(3)
Near-poor	30	(3)	11	(2)	3	(1)
Not poor	20	(1)	4	(1)	1	(--)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)						
Less than high school diploma	52	(4)	19	(3)	7	(2)
High school graduate	24	(2)	6	(1)	2	(1)
Education beyond high school	20	(2)	4	(1)	1	(--)
Employment						
Ages 18-64						
Employed full-time	16	(1)	1	(--)	1	(--)
Employed part-time	17	(3)	4	(2)	--	(1)
Insurance Coverage over Past Year						
Covered all year	25	(1)	6	(1)	2	(--)
Covered part of year	21	(4)	8	(3)	2	(2)
Uninsured all year	30	(5)	9	(3)	1	(1)

* Walking one block; climbing stairs; bending, lifting, or stooping; doing vigorous exercise or work.

Notes: A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5 percent.

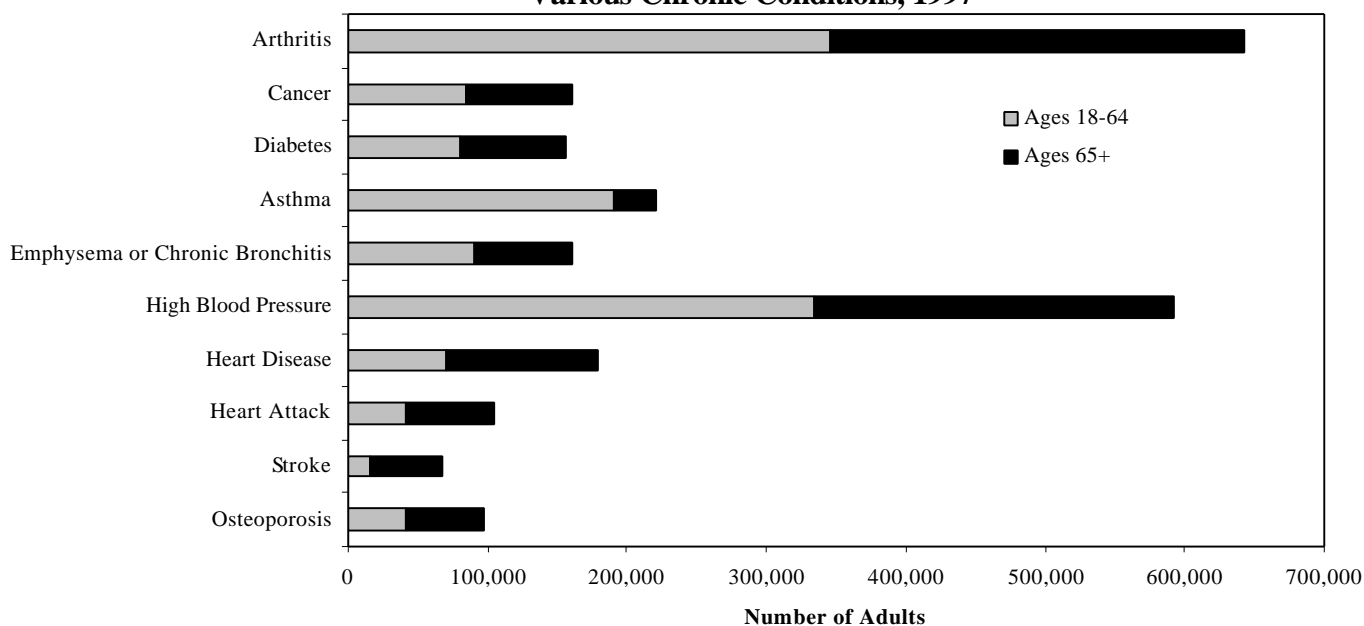
C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.

Chronic Conditions Among Adults

In Wisconsin, just under 1.4 million adults living in households are reported to have one or more of ten chronic conditions. Over 642,000 adults (17%) have been diagnosed with arthritis (Figure 11 and Table 8, next page). (As with all other Family Health Survey results, these estimates do not include persons living in nursing homes and other institutional settings.) Sixteen percent of adults (594,000) report having been told by a doctor that they have high blood pressure.

Except for asthma, the percentage of the population afflicted with any of these chronic conditions increases with age. For example, 5 percent of 18-44-year-olds have arthritis, compared with 49 percent of adults 75 and older (see Table 8, next page).

Figure 11. Estimated Number of Adults (in Households) Ever Diagnosed with Various Chronic Conditions, 1997



To obtain data on the prevalence of diagnosed arthritis, cancer, diabetes, asthma, emphysema or chronic bronchitis, high blood pressure, heart disease, heart attack, stroke, and osteoporosis, respondents were asked about a diagnosis by a medical doctor. “*Has anyone in your household ever been told by a doctor that they have (each of ten chronic diseases)?*” These estimates of disease in the population are underestimates, since they do not include cases not yet diagnosed.

Chronic Conditions Among Adults

Table 8. Chronic Conditions Ever Diagnosed Among Adults, by Age, 1997

Arthritis					Cancer			
Age Group	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
18-44	5%	(1)	106,000	(17,000)	2%	(--)	31,000	(9,000)
45-64	23	(2)	240,000	(23,000)	5	(1)	53,000	(12,000)
65-74	45	(4)	173,000	(15,000)	11	(2)	40,000	(9,000)
75+	49	(5)	124,000	(13,000)	15	(4)	37,000	(9,000)
Total (ages 18+)	17	(1)	642,000	(39,000)	4	(1)	161,000	(21,000)
Diabetes					Asthma			
Age Group	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
18-44	1%	(--)	22,000	(8,000)	7%	(1)	140,000	(19,000)
45-64	6	(1)	58,000	(12,000)	5	(1)	51,000	(12,000)
65-74	14	(3)	51,000	(10,000)	5	(2)	20,000	(7,000)
75+	10	(3)	25,000	(8,000)	4	(2)	10,000	(5,000)
Total (ages 18+)	4	(1)	156,000	(20,000)	6	(1)	222,000	(24,000)
Emphysema or Chronic Bronchitis					High Blood Pressure			
Age Group	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
18-44	3%	(1)	53,000	(12,000)	6%	(1)	114,000	(18,000)
45-64	4	(1)	37,000	(10,000)	21	(2)	220,000	(22,000)
65-74	10	(2)	39,000	(9,000)	40	(4)	151,000	(15,000)
75+	12	(3)	31,000	(8,000)	43	(5)	108,000	(13,000)
Total (ages 18+)	4	(1)	159,000	(21,000)	16	(1)	594,000	(37,000)
Heart Disease					Heart Attack			
Age Group	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
18-44	1%	(--)	15,000	(7,000)	--	(--)	4,000	(4,000)
45-64	5	(1)	55,000	(12,000)	4%	(1)	37,000	(10,000)
65-74	15	(3)	58,000	(11,000)	9	(2)	32,000	(8,000)
75+	20	(4)	51,000	(10,000)	12	(3)	31,000	(8,000)
Total (ages 18+)	5	(1)	179,000	(22,000)	3	(--)	104,000	(17,000)
Stroke					Osteoporosis			
Age Group	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
18-44	--	(--)	3,000	(3,000)	1%	(--)	10,000	(5,000)
45-64	1%	(1)	13,000	(6,000)	3	(1)	31,000	(9,000)
65-74	7	(2)	26,000	(8,000)	8	(2)	29,000	(8,000)
75+	10	(3)	26,000	(8,000)	11	(3)	27,000	(8,000)
Total (ages 18+)	2	(--)	68,000	(14,000)	3	(--)	98,000	(16,000)
Any of These 10 Chronic Conditions								
Age Group	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)				
18-44	20%	(2)	406,000	(31,000)				
45-64	48	(3)	501,000	(27,000)				
65-74	75	(3)	287,000	(13,000)				
75+	81	(4)	204,000	(10,000)				
Total (ages 18+)	38	(1)	1,397,000	(49,000)				

Notes: A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5 percent.

C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.

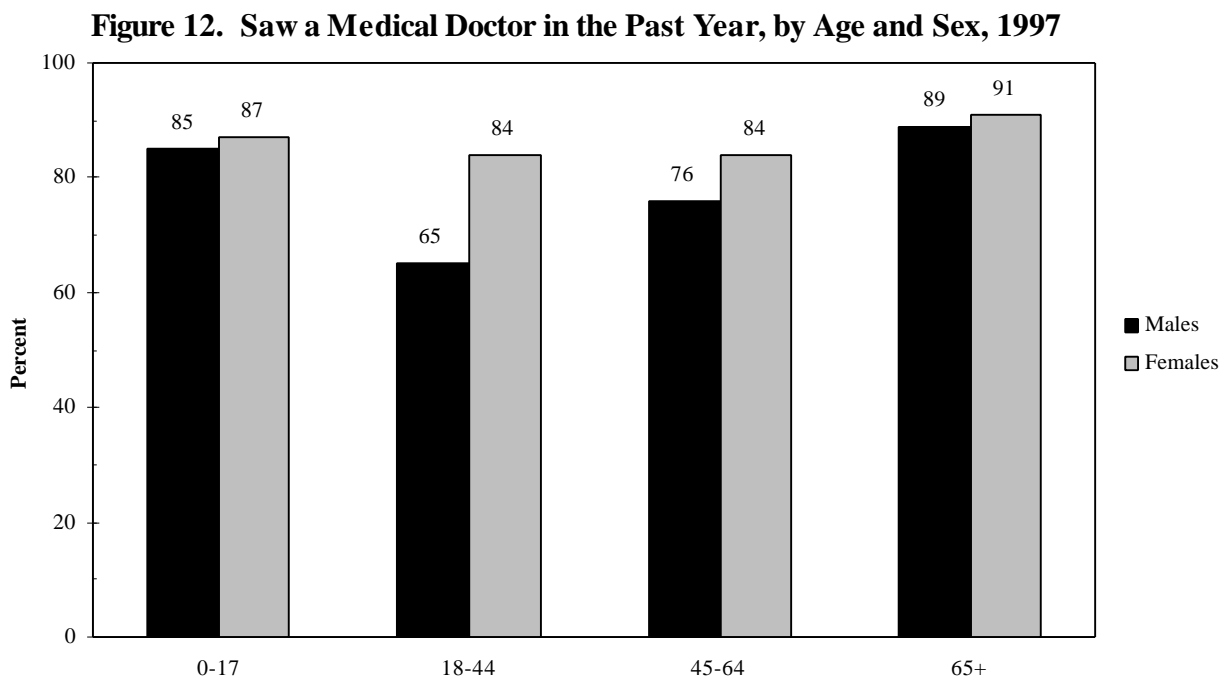
Use of Health Services

Doctor Visits

Based on 1997 survey results, most Wisconsin residents saw a doctor at least once during the past year (the 12 months preceding the survey interview).

Among adults, women were more likely than men to have seen a doctor in the past year (Figure 12 and Table 9, page 28). This was especially true for women of childbearing age (18-44). Among adults 65 and over, however, there appeared to be no significant difference by sex in this measure.

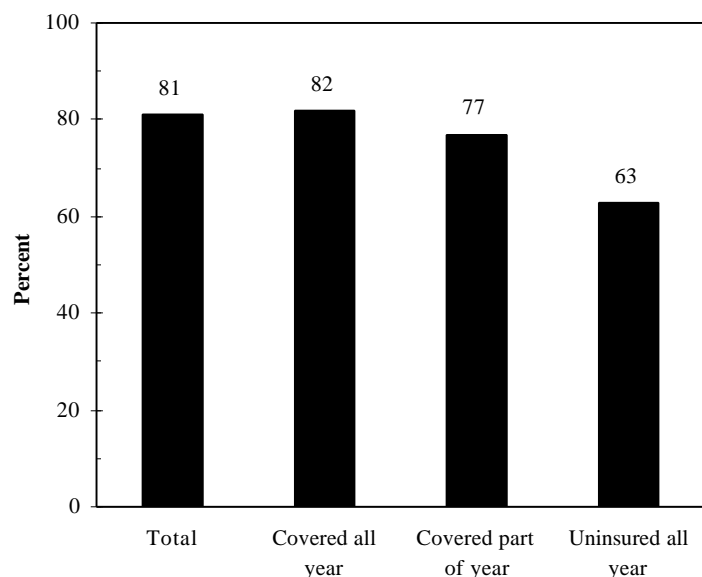
Adults over age 65 are more likely to have seen a doctor in the past year than were younger adults. Children also had high rates of doctor visits (see Table 9, page 28).



These estimates were derived from the question: “*How long has it been since you last saw a medical doctor?*” This includes a doctor visit for any reason: a checkup, injury, emergency room visit, etc.

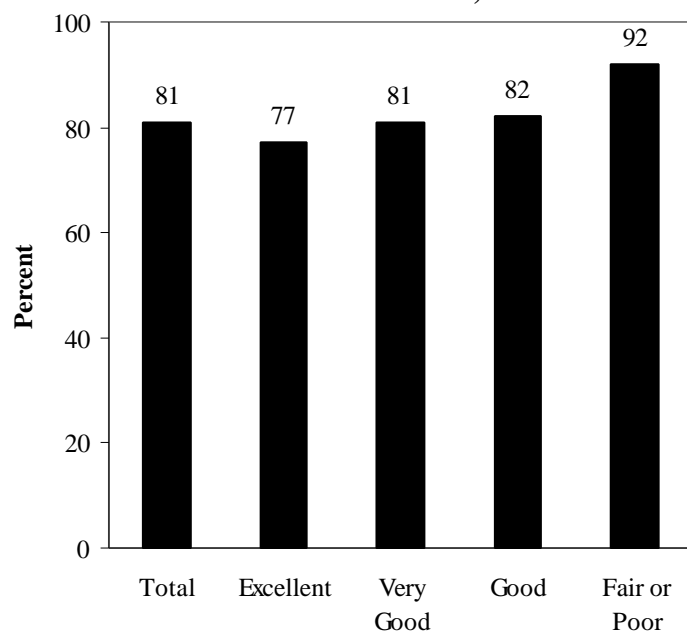
Persons who were uninsured for the entire past year were less likely to have seen a doctor than were persons with health insurance (Figure 13).

Figure 13. Saw a Medical Doctor in the Past Year, by Insurance Coverage During Year, 1997



Persons who perceived themselves to be in fair or poor health were the most likely to have seen a doctor in the past 12 months (Figure 14).

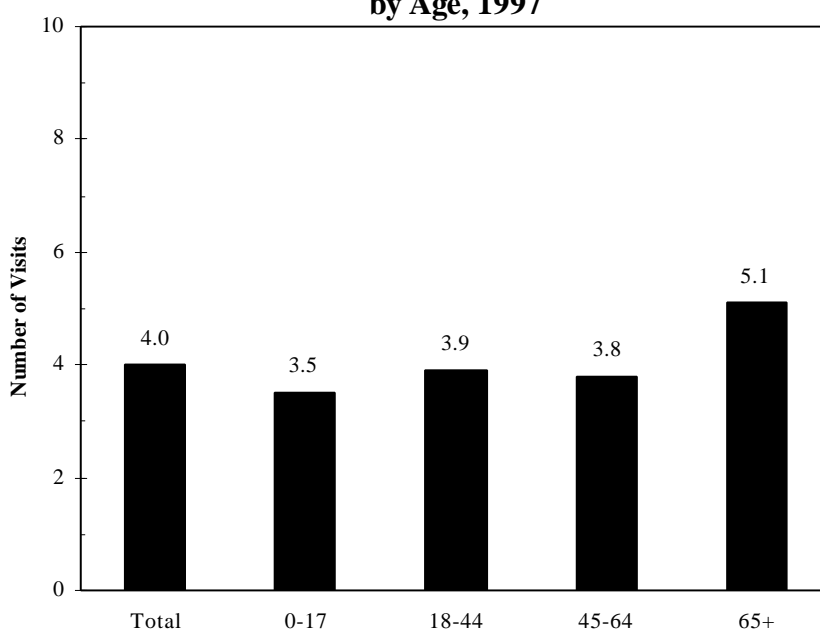
Figure 14. Saw Doctor in Past Year by Perceived Health Status, 1997



One-third of the Wisconsin household population saw a doctor three or more times during the past year. Older adults (65+) as well as poor persons were more likely to report this many doctor visits (see Table 9, next page).

Older adults (age 65+) had the highest average number of doctor visits (5.1) among all persons who saw a doctor in the past year (Figure 15).

Figure 15. Average Number of Doctor Visits in Past Year Among Those Who Saw a Doctor, by Age, 1997



Data were obtained by asking respondents, “*In the past 12 months, how many times have you seen a medical doctor for some health care or advice, not counting informal advice from relatives or friends who are medical doctors?*” (In answering this question, respondents could include general practitioners, specialists such as surgeons, obstetricians, psychiatrists, etc., and all MDs and osteopaths, but not nurses, chiropractors, dentists or acupuncturists.)

Use of Health Services

Table 9. Saw a Medical Doctor in the Past Year , 1997

	Saw Doctor in Past Year				Saw Doctor 3 or More Times in Past Year	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
Total	81%	(1)	4,050,000	(46,000)	34%	(1)
Age Groups						
0-17	86	(2)	1,148,000	(20,000)	35	(2)
18-44	75	(2)	1,502,000	(33,000)	29	(2)
45-64	80	(2)	830,000	(22,000)	33	(2)
65+	90	(2)	570,000	(12,000)	50	(3)
Summary Age Groups						
18+	79	(1)	2,902,000	(42,000)	34	(1)
18-64	76	(1)	2,332,000	(40,000)	31	(1)
Sex and Age Groups						
Male						
0-17	85	(2)	581,000	(15,000)	36	(3)
18-44	65	(3)	658,000	(26,000)	20	(2)
45-64	76	(3)	388,000	(16,000)	30	(3)
65+	89	(3)	240,000	(8,000)	48	(5)
Female						
0-17	87	(2)	568,000	(14,000)	33	(3)
18-44	84	(2)	844,000	(19,000)	39	(3)
45-64	84	(3)	443,000	(14,000)	37	(4)
65+	91	(2)	330,000	(9,000)	52	(4)
Race/Ethnicity						
White, non-Hispanic	81	(1)	3,678,000	(46,000)	34	(1)
Black, non-Hispanic	86	(2)	182,000	(5,000)	37	(3)
Hispanic	78	(6)	80,000	(6,000)	47	(7)
Residence						
City of Milwaukee	82	(2)	454,000	(10,000)	40	(2)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	82	(1)	2,240,000	(36,000)	34	(2)
Nonmetropolitan	78	(2)	1,356,000	(30,000)	32	(2)
Poverty Status						
Poor	80	(3)	350,000	(12,000)	44	(3)
Near-poor	80	(2)	778,000	(20,000)	37	(2)
Not poor	81	(1)	2,828,000	(39,000)	32	(1)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)						
Less than high school diploma	79	(3)	333,000	(13,000)	42	(4)
High school graduate	78	(2)	1,030,000	(25,000)	33	(2)
Education beyond high school	79	(2)	1,536,000	(30,000)	33	(2)
Employment						
Ages 0-17						
Live with employed adult(s)	85	(2)	1,103,000	(17,000)	34	(2)
Live with no employed adult(s)	90	(5)	45,000	(2,000)	53	(8)
Ages 18-64						
Employed full-time	76	(2)	1,566,000	(33,000)	27	(2)
Employed part-time	78	(4)	309,000	(14,000)	32	(4)
Insurance During Past Year						
Covered all year	82	(1)	3,611,000	(42,000)	35	(1)
Covered part of year	77	(4)	256,000	(12,000)	35	(4)
Uninsured all year	63	(5)	173,000	(12,000)	26	(4)

Note: C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.

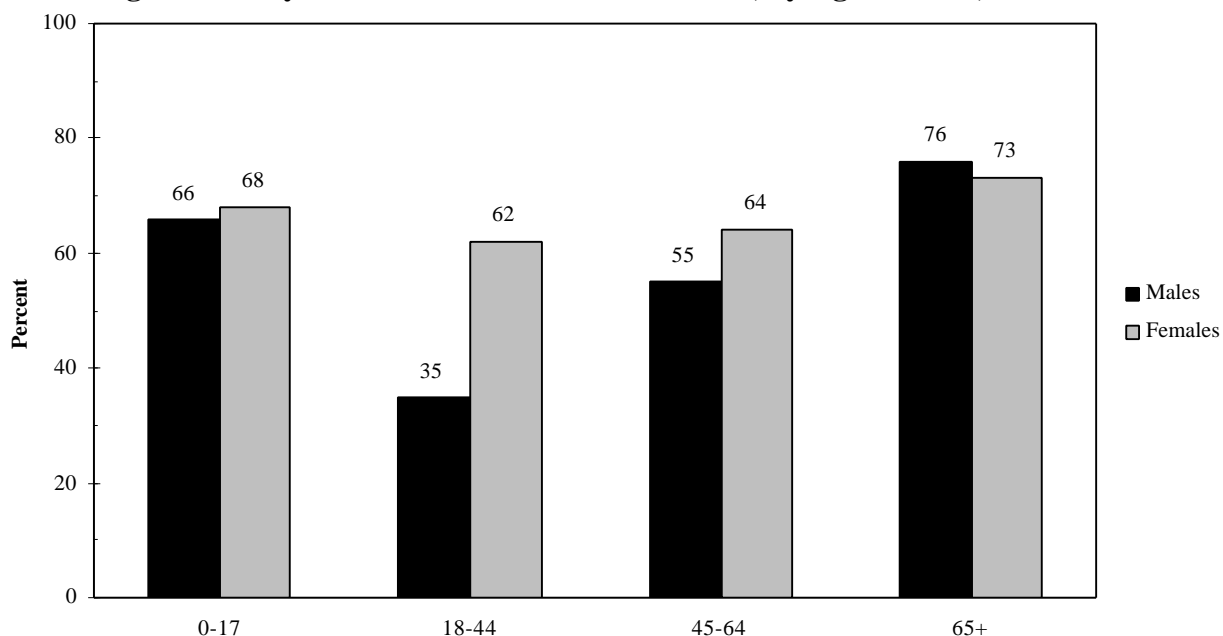
Physical Examinations

Based on 1997 survey results, more than half of Wisconsin residents reportedly had a physical examination during the past year (the 12 months preceding the survey interview). Fifty-nine percent (2.9 million persons) had a physical during the past year (see Table 10, page 31). Women were more likely to have had a recent physical examination than were men. Men ages 18-44 were less likely than men of other ages and women of all ages to have had a physical (Figure 16).

Blacks were more likely than whites, and the poor were more likely than the near-poor and non-poor to have had a physical exam in the past year (see Table 10, page 31).

Those with no health insurance coverage for the entire year were less likely to have had a physical (38%) than were persons with insurance during part or all of the year (52 and 61% respectively) (see Table 10, page 31).

Figure 16. Physical Examination in the Past Year, by Age and Sex, 1997

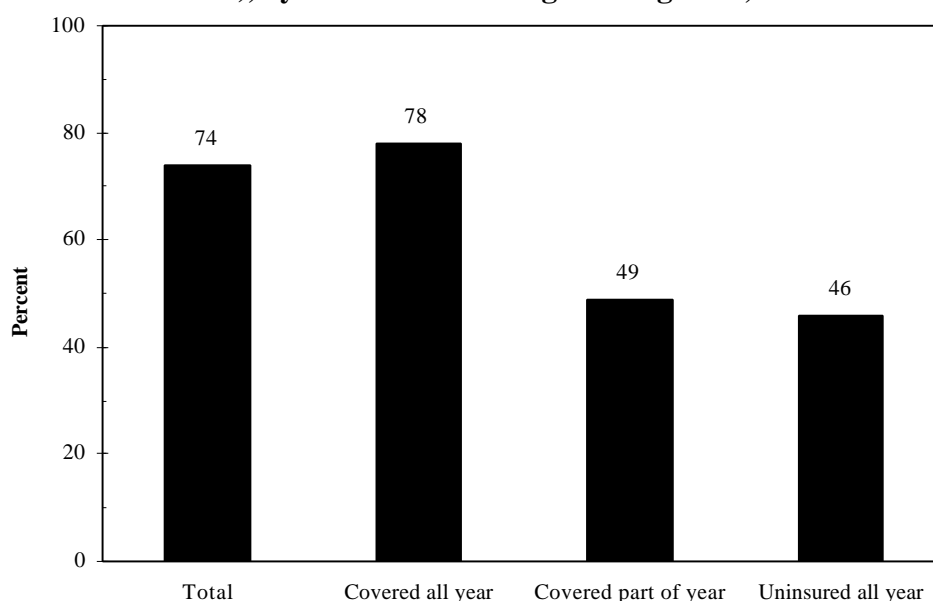


Data were obtained by asking: “Many adults and children get a general physical examination or checkup once in a while. How long has it been since you had a general checkup for which an appointment had been made?”

Dental Visits

Overall, 74 percent of Wisconsin residents reportedly had seen a dentist during the past year (Table 10, next page and Figure 17). This proportion varied widely with health insurance coverage: 78 percent of those with coverage for the entire past year saw a dentist compared with 46 percent for those uninsured all year. It also varied with poverty status: the poor and near-poor were similar (60 and 61 percent, respectively) compared with the non-poor (80 percent) (see Table 10, next page).

Figure 17. Saw a Dentist in the Past Year (Age 3 and Older), by Insurance Coverage During Year, 1997



Respondents were asked “*How long ago did you last visit the dentist?*” If respondents inquired, they were told to include any kind of dental health care provider, such as endodontist, periodontist, and orthodontist.

Use of Health Services

Table 10. Physical Examinations and Dental Visits, 1997

	Physical Exam in Past Year**				Dental Visit in Past Year*	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
Total	59%	(1)	2,962,000	(57,000)	74%	(1)
Age Groups						
0-17	67	(2)	901,000	(27,000)	86	(2)
18-44	48	(2)	971,000	(38,000)	70	(2)
45-64	60	(3)	618,000	(27,000)	76	(2)
65+	75	(3)	472,000	(17,000)	63	(3)
Summary Age Groups						
18+	56	(1)	2,061,000	(50,000)	70	(1)
18-64	52	(2)	1,589,000	(47,000)	72	(1)
Sex and Age Groups						
Male						
0-17	66	(3)	457,000	(19,000)	86	(2)
18-44	35	(3)	348,000	(26,000)	62	(3)
45-64	55	(4)	280,000	(19,000)	73	(3)
65+	76	(4)	205,000	(11,000)	65	(5)
Female						
0-17	68	(3)	444,000	(19,000)	87	(2)
18-44	62	(3)	623,000	(26,000)	77	(2)
45-64	64	(3)	338,000	(18,000)	78	(3)
65+	73	(4)	267,000	(13,000)	62	(4)
Race/Ethnicity						
White, non-Hispanic	58	(1)	2,651,000	(58,000)	75	(1)
Black, non-Hispanic	75	(3)	160,000	(6,000)	68	(3)
Hispanic	67	(7)	70,000	(7,000)	70	(7)
Residence						
City of Milwaukee	67	(2)	372,000	(12,000)	71	(2)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	60	(2)	1,649,000	(45,000)	76	(1)
Nonmetropolitan	54	(2)	941,000	(36,000)	72	(2)
Poverty Status						
Poor	67	(3)	290,000	(14,000)	60	(4)
Near-poor	58	(3)	565,000	(25,000)	61	(3)
Not poor	58	(1)	2,035,000	(49,000)	80	(1)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)						
Less than high school diploma	61	(4)	257,000	(16,000)	49	(4)
High school graduate	56	(2)	736,000	(30,000)	66	(2)
Education beyond high school	55	(2)	1,066,000	(37,000)	78	(2)
Employment						
Ages 0-17						
Live with employed adult(s)	67	(2)	862,000	(27,000)	87	(2)
Live with no employed adult(s)	78	(7)	39,000	(3,000)	78	(8)
Ages 18-64						
Employed full-time	49	(2)	1,010,000	(39,000)	73	(2)
Employed part-time	57	(4)	227,000	(17,000)	72	(4)
Insurance During Past Year						
Covered all year	61	(1)	2,681,000	(53,000)	78	(1)
Covered part of year	52	(4)	171,000	(15,000)	49	(5)
Uninsured all year	38	(5)	104,000	(12,000)	46	(5)

* Age 3 and older.

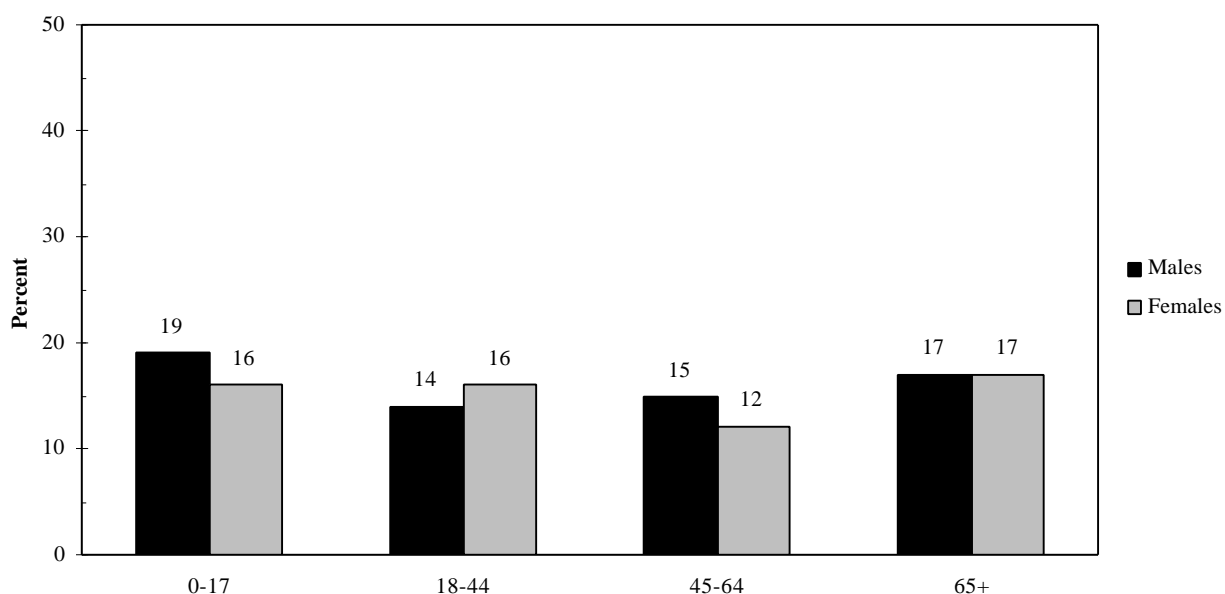
** 4% did not answer.

Note: C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.

Emergency Room Treatment

An estimated 15 percent of Wisconsin household residents (775,000) were treated in an emergency room during the past year (see Table 11, page 34). Those at increased risk of being treated in an ER included blacks, the poor, and children who live with no employed adults. Differences in emergency room treatment by age and sex were small (Figure 18).

**Figure 18. Treated in Emergency Room in Past Year,
by Age and Sex, 1997**



Respondents were asked: “Who in your household has been treated at a hospital emergency room during the past 12 months; that is, since (date)?” “About how many times in the past 12 months has (name) been treated in an emergency room?”

Emergency room treatment during the past year was more common among the poor than among the near-poor and not poor (Figure 19). This could be related to lack of money and/or insurance to pay for preventive care or prompt acute care (see Table 11, next page). Some people use the ER for non-emergencies because they don't have access to a doctor. In other cases, people may delay seeking care until the situation becomes an emergency.

Using the ER more than once during a year can indicate presence of a condition, such as asthma, that needs careful management to prevent recurring emergencies. Multiple ER visits may also indicate lack of a regular health care provider. People living in poverty were more likely to have been treated in an emergency room several times during the year. Six percent of poor persons had been to an emergency room at least three times during the past year, compared with 2 percent of the near-poor and 1 percent of the non-poor (see Table 11, next page).

Figure 19. Treated in Emergency Room in Past Year, by Poverty Status, 1997

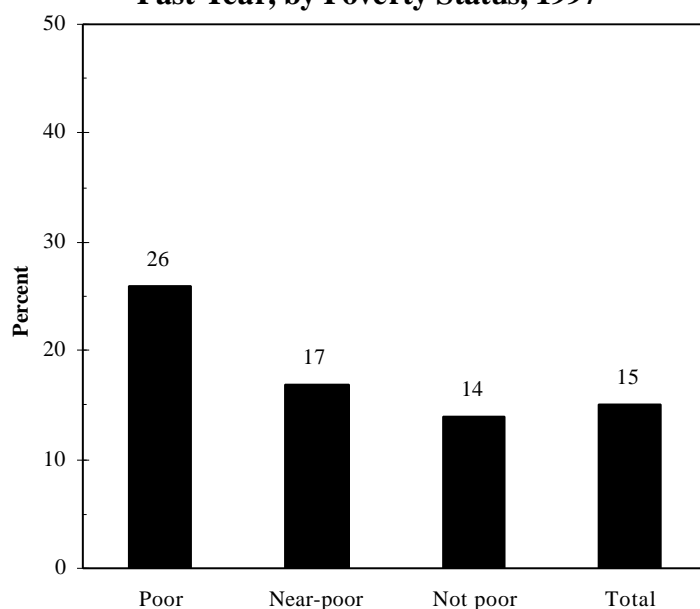


Table 11. Treated in Emergency Room in Past Year, 1997

	Treated in ER in Past Year				Treated in ER 3+ Times in Past Year	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
Total	15%	(1)	775,000	(42,000)	2%	(--)
Age Groups						
0-17	17	(2)	231,000	(22,000)	1	(1)
18-44	15	(1)	299,000	(27,000)	2	(1)
45-64	13	(2)	139,000	(18,000)	2	(1)
65+	17	(2)	107,000	(15,000)	1	(1)
Summary Age Groups						
18+	15	(1)	544,000	(36,000)	2	(--)
18-64	14	(1)	437,000	(33,000)	2	(--)
Sex and Age Groups						
Male						
0-17	19	(2)	129,000	(16,000)	2	(1)
18-44	14	(2)	142,000	(19,000)	1	(1)
45-64	15	(3)	77,000	(14,000)	1	(1)
65+	17	(4)	46,000	(10,000)	2	(1)
Female						
0-17	16	(2)	101,000	(15,000)	1	(1)
18-44	16	(2)	156,000	(19,000)	3	(1)
45-64	12	(2)	62,000	(12,000)	2	(1)
65+	17	(3)	61,000	(11,000)	1	(1)
Race/Ethnicity						
White, non-Hispanic	15	(1)	678,000	(42,000)	1	(--)
Black, non-Hispanic	22	(3)	47,000	(6,000)	5	(2)
Hispanic	21	(6)	21,000	(6,000)	5	(3)
Residence						
City of Milwaukee	18	(2)	99,000	(10,000)	4	(1)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	14	(1)	372,000	(32,000)	1	(--)
Nonmetropolitan	17	(2)	303,000	(28,000)	2	(1)
Poverty Status						
Poor	26	(3)	113,000	(13,000)	6	(2)
Near-poor	17	(2)	167,000	(19,000)	2	(1)
Not poor	14	(1)	476,000	(34,000)	1	(--)
Educational Attainment (Ages 18+)						
Less than high school diploma	17	(3)	71,000	(12,000)	4	(2)
High school graduate	16	(2)	210,000	(22,000)	2	(1)
Education beyond high school	14	(1)	264,000	(26,000)	1	(--)
Employment						
Ages 0-17						
Live with employed adult(s)	17	(2)	217,000	(21,000)	1	(1)
Live with no employed adult(s)	27	(7)	13,000	(4,000)	4	(3)
Ages 18-64						
Employed full-time	14	(1)	278,000	(27,000)	1	(--)
Employed part-time	12	(3)	46,000	(11,000)	1	(1)
Insurance During Past Year						
Covered all year	15	(1)	668,000	(39,000)	1	(--)
Covered part of year	21	(4)	69,000	(12,000)	4	(2)
Uninsured all year	13	(3)	36,000	(9,000)	4	(2)

Notes: A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5 percent.

C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes

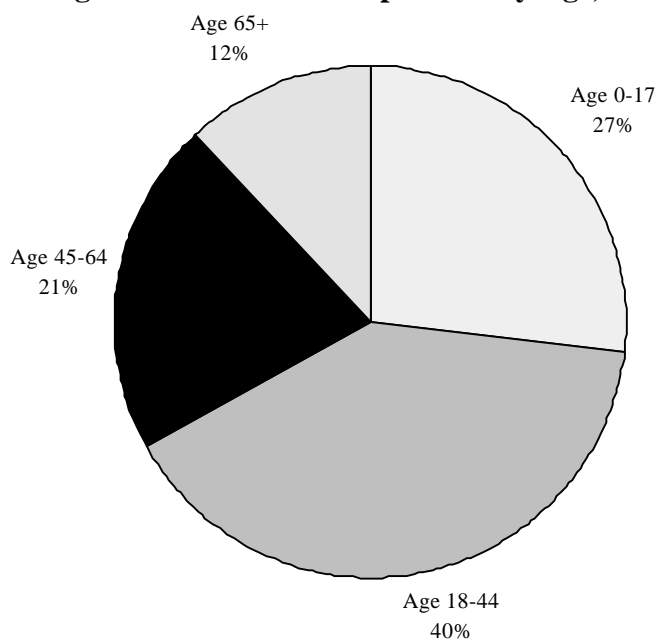
Household Population Characteristics

The Family Health Survey is considered to be representative of all persons who live in Wisconsin households. Survey results can be used to describe household residents, keeping in mind that survey estimates are going to differ from results of a complete census.

According to 1997 FHS results, approximately 61 percent of the household population is in the age bracket generally considered to be “working age” (ages 18-64) (Figure 20). Another 12 percent are adults age 65 and older, while 27 percent of the household population are children.

The household population consists of males and females in roughly equal proportions (49% and 51%, respectively) (not shown in a graphic).

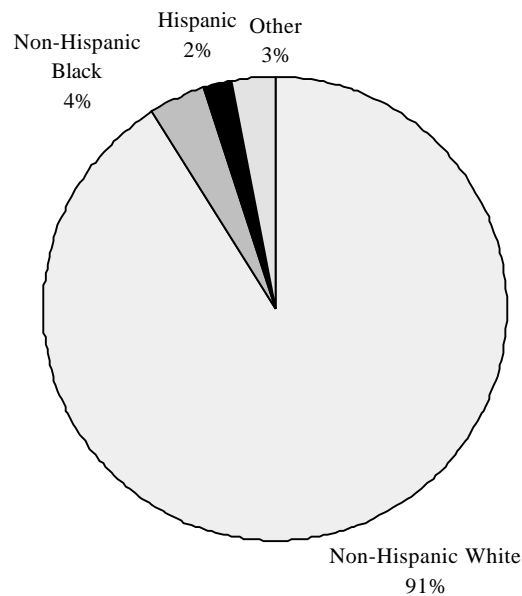
Figure 20. Household Population by Age, 1997



The vast majority of Wisconsin's household population is non-Hispanic white. Minorities constitute about 9 percent of the population, according to estimates from the Family Health Survey (Figure 21).

Among children, minorities constitute 14 percent of the population and non-Hispanic whites constitute 86 percent (not shown in table).

Figure 21. Household Population by Race and Ethnicity, 1997



Race estimates are based on the question, *“Is your race white, black, Asian or American Indian?”* Following this question, respondents are asked about ethnicity: *“Who, if anyone, in your household is of Hispanic origin, such as Mexican-American, Latin American, Puerto Rican or Cuban?”*

Nine percent of Wisconsin's household population lived in a poor household in 1997 (Figure 22).

Eleven percent of children living in Wisconsin households were poor, and another 21 percent were near-poor (Table 12).

Poverty status was determined by asking respondents about total household income from all sources in 1996 and the number of people living in the household (see Technical Notes).

Figure 22. Household Population by Poverty Status, 1997

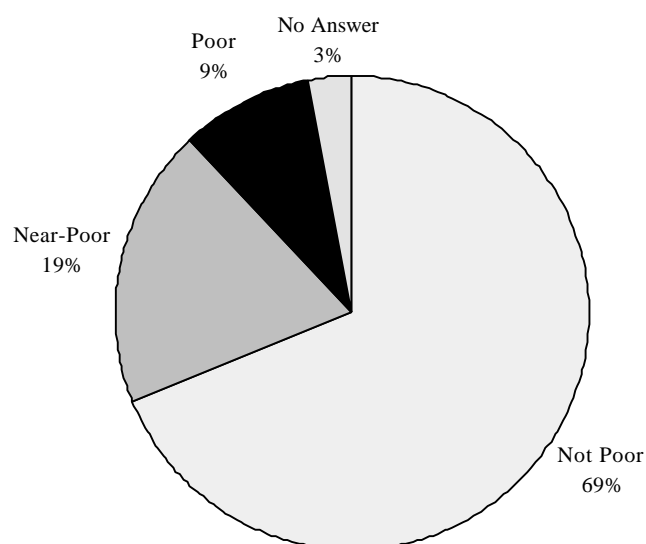


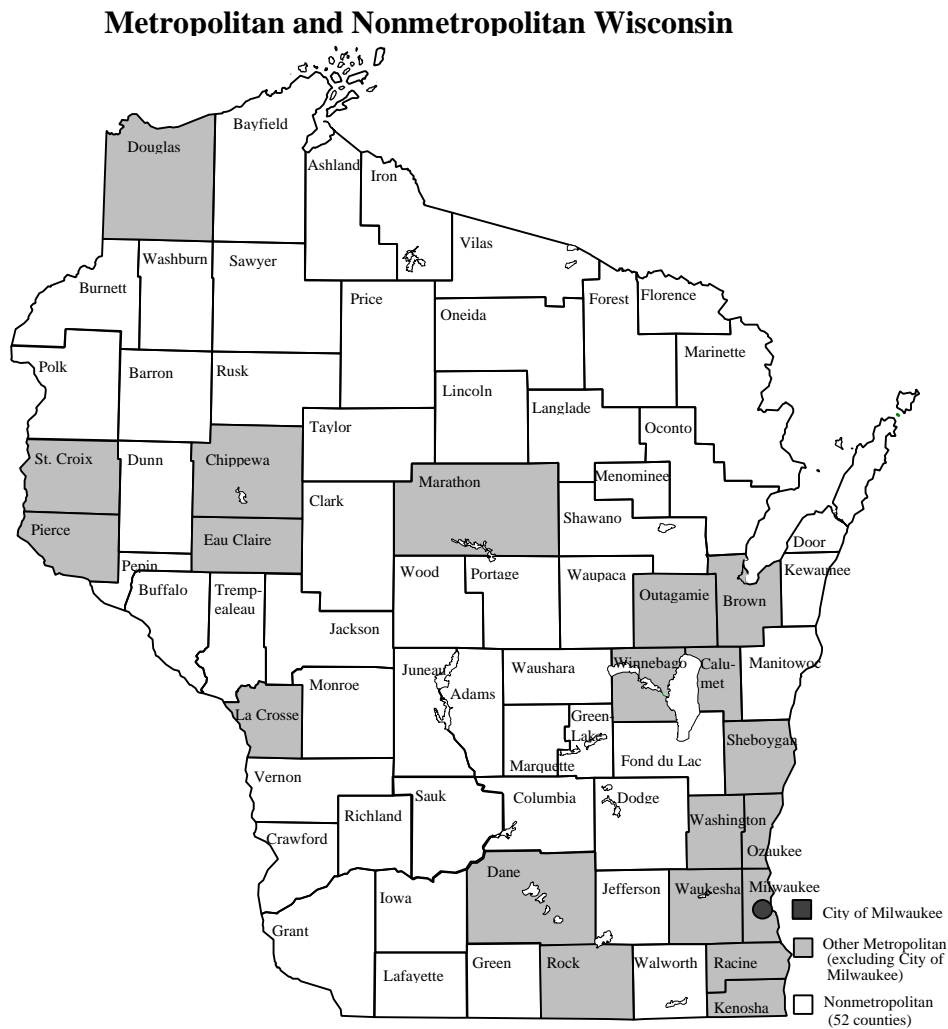
Table 12. Household Population by Poverty Status and Age, 1997

Age Group*	Poverty Status							
	Poor				Near poor		Not poor	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
0-17	11%	(1)	149,000	(18,000)	21%	(2)	67%	(2)
18-44	7	(1)	149,000	(20,000)	18	(1)	73	(2)
45-64	6	(1)	62,000	(13,000)	14	(2)	79	(2)
Total (All ages)	9	(1)	436,000	(33,000)	19	(1)	69	(1)

* Poverty status could not be estimated for 12 percent of persons 65 and older.

Based on 1997 Family Health Survey estimates, 11 percent of the state's household population live in the City of Milwaukee, another 54 percent live in the balance of Milwaukee County and the other 19 metropolitan counties, and 35 percent live in the 52 nonmetropolitan counties (Figure 23).

Figure 23.



An estimated 3,260,000 Wisconsin adults have completed high school or more education (89 percent of all adults living in households) (Table 13).

The proportion of “working-age” adults (ages 18-64) who have completed high school or more education (92%) is larger than the proportion among older adults (72 %) (Table 13).

Table 13. Adult Household Population by Educational Attainment and Age, 1997

Age Groups	Education Completed					
	Less than high school		High school graduate		More than high school	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
18-44	7%	(1)	34%	(2)	59%	(2)
45-64	9	(2)	39	(3)	52	(3)
65+	28	(3)	39	(3)	33	(3)
All Adults (18+)	11	(1)	36	(1)	53	(1)

Note: C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes

In 1997, an estimated 68 percent of adults ages 18-64 (2,062,000 residents) were employed full-time and 13 percent (397,000 residents) were employed part-time, making a total of 81 percent who were employed (Table 14 and Figure 24). Men and women differ in the proportion employed full- or part-time.

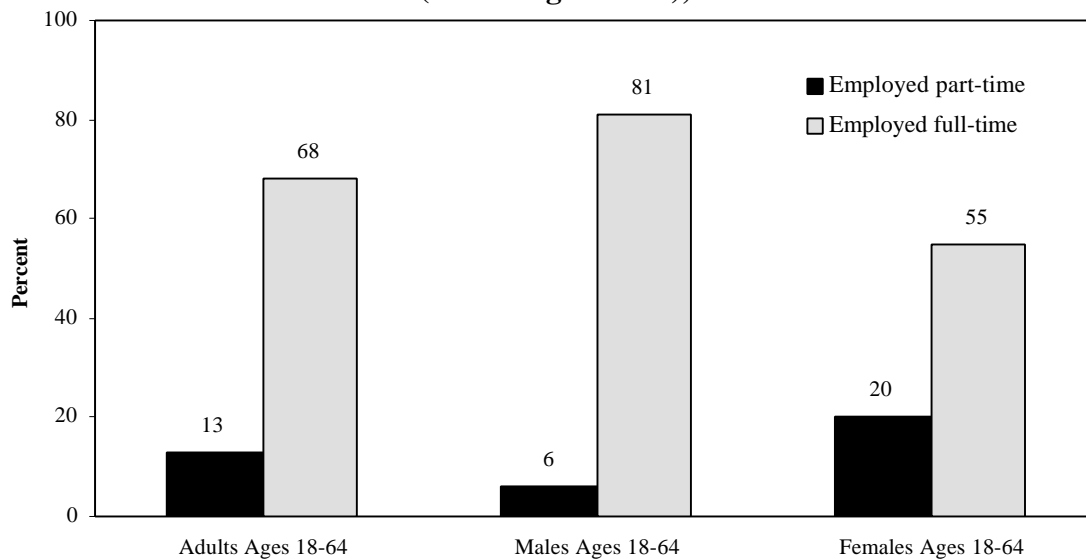
Eleven percent of persons age 65 and older were employed; more than half (66 percent) of these older workers were employed part-time (not shown in table).

Table 14. Household Population by Employment Status and Sex (Adults Ages 18-64), 1997

	Employment			
	Employed Full-time		Employed Part-time	
	Percent	(C.I.±)	Percent	(C.I.±)
Males	81%	(2)	6%	(1)
Females	55	(2)	20	(2)
All Adults (18-64)	68	(1)	13	(1)

Note: C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes

Figure 24. Household Population by Employment Status and Sex (Adults Ages 18-64), 1997



Household Population Characteristics

Table 15. Characteristics of Wisconsin's Household Population, 1997

	Percent	(C.I.±)	Number	(C.I.±)
Total	100%		5,023,000	
Age Groups				
0-17	27	(1)	1,341,000	(52,000)
18-44	40	(1)	2,014,000	(57,000)
45-64	21	(1)	1,036,000	(47,000)
65+	13	(1)	632,000	(39,000)
Sex and Age Groups				
Male				
0-17	28	(1)	687,000	(37,000)
18-44	41	(2)	1,008,000	(40,000)
45-64	21	(1)	509,000	(33,000)
65+	11	(1)	269,000	(26,000)
Female				
0-17	26	(1)	654,000	(36,000)
18-44	39	(2)	1,005,000	(40,000)
45-64	21	(1)	527,000	(33,000)
65+	14	(1)	364,000	(29,000)
Race/Ethnicity				
White, non-Hispanic	91	(1)	4,566,000	(34,000)
Black, non-Hispanic	4	(--)	212,000	(23,000)
Hispanic	2	(--)	103,000	(17,000)
Residence				
City of Milwaukee	11	(1)	553,000	(36,000)
Other Metropolitan (excluding City of Milwaukee)	54	(1)	2,730,000	(58,000)
Nonmetropolitan	35	(1)	1,739,000	(55,000)
Poverty Status				
Poor	9	(1)	436,000	(33,000)
Near-poor	19	(1)	975,000	(46,000)
Not poor	69	(1)	3,484,000	(54,000)
Educational Attainment				
Ages 18 and older:				
Less than high school diploma	11	(1)	419,000	(32,000)
High school graduate	36	(1)	1,321,000	(49,000)
Education beyond high school	53	(1)	1,939,000	(51,000)
Employment				
Ages 0-17				
Live with employed adult(s)	96	(1)	1,291,000	(11,000)
Lived with no employed adult(s)	4	(1)	50,000	(11,000)
Ages 18-64				
Employed full-time	68	(1)	2,062,000	(44,000)
Employed part-time	13	(1)	397,000	(32,000)

Notes: A dash (--) indicates less than 0.5 percent.

C.I. = Confidence Interval (specifies a range within which the true value probably lies). See Technical Notes.

Technical Notes

Wisconsin Family Health Survey Design

The Wisconsin Family Health Survey (FHS) is a telephone survey of Wisconsin households, designed to provide estimates of health care coverage, various health problems, and use of health care services by people across the state.

The FHS sampling frame consists of all Wisconsin households with a working telephone. In 1997, the sample design for selecting telephone numbers for the survey included both a core sample and special screened samples. For the core sample, the state was divided into five sample strata, four of which were defined geographically by grouping all of the counties into four areas. Telephone area code/prefix combinations from these four strata were randomly sampled at rates disproportionate to the population size of each stratum, to yield a minimum of 225 completed interviews per stratum. A fifth sample stratum consisted of telephone prefixes within the City of Milwaukee that had previously been found to include at least 20 percent black respondents. This stratum was also randomly sampled.

The screened samples were used to collect additional interviews with households that included persons age 65 and older. The screened sample for households that included persons 65 and older was in effect from January through June.

The Wisconsin Survey Research Laboratory, University of Wisconsin-Extension, contracted to draw the samples and conduct all interviews. Trained interviewers called the sampled telephone numbers and conducted the survey using a computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) system. Each telephone number was called at least 10 times before being designated unanswered. The final overall response rate was 67 percent.

Interviews were conducted during every month of 1997; the number of interviews conducted each month ranged from a low of 187 in December to a high of 225 in March.

The final FHS sample for 1997 consisted of 2,638 household interviews, representing a total of 7,150 Wisconsin household residents. The sample design produced the following:

Interview Period	Households	Persons
January-June	1,242	3,443
(screened sample)	(192)	(364)
July-December	1,204	3,343
Total	2,638	7,150

The demographic characteristics of the 1997 sample are displayed in Table 16, which presents the unweighted frequencies. The results in this table are not representative of the Wisconsin population, because they have not been weighted to correct for disproportionate sampling rates.

Table 16. Wisconsin Family Health Survey 1997 Sample Size

Total	7,150	Residence	
Age Groups		City of Milwaukee	1,667
0-17	2,105	Other Metropolitan (excluding	
18-44	2,658	City of Milwaukee)	3,314
45-64	1,404	Nonmetropolitan	2,169
65+	983	Poverty Status	
Sex and Age Groups		Poor	792
Male		Near-poor	1,470
0-17	1,089	Not poor	4,679
18-44	1,273	Educational Attainment	
45-64	671	Ages 18 and older:	
65+	426	Less than high school diploma	654
Female		High school diploma	1,808
0-17	1,016	More than high school	2,579
18-44	1,385	Employment	
45-64	733	Ages 0-17	
65+	557	Live with employed adult(s)	1,965
Race/Ethnicity		Lived with no employed adult(s)	140
White, non-Hispanic	5,867	Ages 18-64	
Black, non-Hispanic	870	Employed full-time	2,672
Hispanic	184	Employed part-time	530

The person in each household who knows the most about the health of all household members is selected to answer all survey questions during the telephone interview. This person answers survey questions for him/herself as well as for all other household members. In 1997, 71 percent of the respondents were women.

The questions asked in the FHS were designed in the Bureau of Health Information. Many of the questions asked remain the same from year to year; new topics are added from time to time. Abbreviated versions of some survey questions appear with some of the tables in this report and in Appendix A. A copy of all questions asked in 1997 may be obtained from the Bureau of Health Information.

The data set for analysis of the 1997 FHS was constructed in the Bureau of Health Information, using the individual as the basic unit for analysis. The small amount of missing data (i.e., respondent refused to answer or answered “don’t know”) on the age, sex, race and education variables was imputed, using interview transcripts and similar cases. About 8 percent of respondents did not report income needed to calculate poverty status. Through imputation from other income information, the final proportion of households with missing information on poverty status was reduced to 4 percent (unweighted for households).

Household population estimates for age and sex groups (see Table 15, page 41) were constructed in the Bureau of Health Information. The Demographic Services Center, Department of Administration

(DOA), estimates the Wisconsin population on January 1 of every non-Census year. The Bureau of Health Information estimates the July 1 population each year by adjusting the DOA estimate to reflect population growth between January and July. The household population used in the Family Health Survey weights is the total population minus the group-quarters population (i.e., persons living in nursing homes, college dormitories, prisons, etc.). The household population estimate for July 1, 1997 was used to weight the results in this report.

A final weight variable was constructed for each person record on the data set, incorporating the varying sampling rates, response rates by stratum, and the total estimated household population as described above. The weight adjusted the sample for the age/sex distribution of the household population estimate.

Definitions of Variables Used in This Report

Age and sex. These characteristics are reported by the respondent for each household member. Individual years of age are classified into four groups for the analysis here: ages 0 through 17, 18 through 44, 45 through 64, and 65 and older. In a few tables, elderly adults are separated into two groups: ages 65 through 74, and age 75 and older.

Race and ethnicity. These were determined by two questions (which are shown with Figure 21, page 36). Everyone whose race was reported as white and who was reported as not Hispanic is grouped into the “white, non-Hispanic” category. The same applies to blacks who were reported as not Hispanic. Everyone identified as Hispanic, regardless of race, were coded as “Hispanic”.

Metropolitan and nonmetropolitan. Twenty Wisconsin counties have been designated metropolitan counties by the federal Office of Management and Budget. They are: Brown, Calumet, Chippewa, Dane, Douglas, Eau Claire, Kenosha, La Crosse, Marathon, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Pierce, Racine, Rock, St. Croix, Sheboygan, Washington, Waukesha, and Winnebago. Counties are designated as metropolitan because they either 1) have a central city of at least 50,000 people, or 2) are adjacent and economically linked to a “central city” county. For the tables in this report, results for the City of Milwaukee have been separated from the rest of the metropolitan counties. The “Other Metropolitan” category includes Milwaukee County outside the city plus the remaining 19 metropolitan counties. The other 52 counties are nonmetropolitan.

Poverty status. The relationship between number of people in a household and the annual income of that household determines the poverty status. The Family Health Survey asked several questions about total household income during the calendar year prior to the survey (1996), and used current household size to determine whether a household’s income was below the federal poverty guideline. A household of four people was considered poor if the total income was below \$16,000 (this is an approximation of the 1996 federal guideline, which was \$15,600). The “near-poor” category on these tables includes all people in households where the income was greater than the poverty guideline but less than twice the guideline. For a household of four, this was \$31,000 (see Table 17, next page).

Table 17. Wisconsin Family Health Survey Poverty Guidelines, 1996

Household Size	Poverty Guidelines	
	Poor	Near-Poor
1	\$8,000	\$15,000
2	\$10,000	\$21,000
3	\$13,000	\$26,000
4	\$16,000	\$31,000
5	\$18,000	\$36,000
6	\$21,000	\$42,000

Source: Wisconsin Family Health Survey. Guidelines derived from *Federal Register*, March 4, 1996, and rounded to nearest \$1,000.

Notes: All members of a household were considered to be “poor” if total household income was less than the poverty guideline shown for a household of that size. Household members were considered to be “near-poor” if total household income fell between the poor and near-poor guidelines shown in this table for a household of that size.

Educational attainment. Years of schooling completed are categorized in three groups for this report. Adults who finished 11 grades of school or less are in the first group, “less than high school diploma.” Adults who completed 12 years of school or a GED are in the “high school graduate” group, and adults who attended college or technical school beyond high school are in the “education beyond high school” group.

Working-age adults (ages 18 to 64). People in this age range are classified by employment status. Those who were working full-time at the time of the survey are grouped together, as are those who were working part-time. The remaining adults ages 18-64 include homemakers, the retired, full-time students, persons laid off, the unemployed (either looking or not looking for work), and those disabled persons who are unable to work. These adults were not grouped together as it is too disparate a group.

Children under age 18. All children are classified by the employment status of the adults in their household. If at least one adult was employed either part-time or full-time, then the child was classified as living with an employed adult. If no adult in the child’s household was employed at the time of the interview, then the child was classified as living with no employed adults.

Health insurance. As used in this report, “**health insurance**” includes any kind of private or public coverage for health care costs, including Medicare, Medical Assistance (also called Medicaid), and other government-funded insurance. The FHS does not obtain information about the extent of services covered by insurance, or information about costs of premiums, deductibles, and co-payments.

Health insurance coverage over the past year. This estimates three groups: the percent of residents who were covered by health insurance over the entire 12 months preceding the telephone interview, the percent who had coverage during part of the 12 months and had no insurance part of the time, and the percent who had no health insurance at all during the preceding 12 months.

Technical Notes

Because FHS interviews were conducted throughout the year, the “preceding 12-month” period is indefinite; it can include any 12-month period between January 1996 and December 1997.

As previously mentioned on page 9, the FHS estimate of uninsured for the entire year is not identical to that reported by the U.S. Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey (CPS). Though both surveys estimate the proportion of persons who were uninsured for the entire past year, differences in measurement methods may explain most of the discrepancy between estimates. For example:

- The sample design for the FHS is a random sample of telephone numbers, stratified by regions, while the CPS uses a nationally-representative multistage cluster sample.
- The sample for the FHS is larger than the CPS sample for the state of Wisconsin.
- The FHS insurance question refers to the past 12 months while CPS asks about the 1997 calendar year.
- The study designs are different: the CPS is longitudinal, conducting 8 interviews with each household over a 2-year period, while the FHS is a point-in-time study, conducting one interview with each household.
- There are variations in interviewer training and methods. The first CPS interview is conducted face-to-face while the FHS is conducted only by telephone.

The reader is advised to use CPS estimates to make comparisons between states. However, for program purposes, it may be more appropriate to use FHS estimates since the FHS draws on a much larger representative sample in Wisconsin than does the CPS.

Insured and uninsured. The “current” estimate of health insurance coverage is the percent (or number) who had health insurance coverage at the time of the interview. It is a snapshot estimate, a cross-section of the Wisconsin household population at one point in time. Each respondent is asked to list household members who are currently insured through Medicare, Medical Assistance, private health insurance, or any other kind of coverage. Each household member with any insurance is considered to be insured. Those with no insurance at the time of the interview are uninsured. When interviews for the entire year are compiled, the results estimate the proportions insured and uninsured at any one random point in time during 1997.

Question Changes

The questions asked in the January to June 1997 interviews were continued from the July to December 1996 Family Health Survey. Questions specific to households with an adult age 65 or older were dropped in July 1997 coinciding with elimination of this screened sample.

In September 1997, one question was added to the survey: *A new state program called W-2 provides assistance, such as job searches, employment, child care, and transportation to work. Is anyone in your household enrolled in the W-2 program?* If the respondent answered yes to this question, they were not asked about enrollment in the AFDC program. The W-2 program was established to replace AFDC and in 1998, the AFDC question was eliminated.

Tables in This Report

All information presented in the tables and figures in this report, including the estimates of Wisconsin's household population, was produced from the weighted 1997 Family Health Survey.

The tables include estimated percentages, 95 percent confidence intervals, and estimated numbers of people. The percentage estimates, as well as the percentage confidence intervals, are rounded to whole numbers to avoid the impression of greater precision than is warranted from a sample survey. The estimated numbers of people, which are estimates of the Wisconsin household population, are rounded to the nearest 1,000 for the same reason.

The 95 percent confidence interval (for both the estimated percents and number of people) is in parentheses. Add the confidence interval value to the estimated percent to find the high boundary and subtract it from the percent to find the low boundary of the 95 percent confidence interval. For example, on the top line of Table 3, 5 percent of Wisconsinites are estimated to have been uninsured all year. Adding and subtracting the 1 percent value yields a 95 percent confidence interval of 4 to 6 percent. This means that 95 out of 100 random surveys would estimate that 4 to 6 percent of Wisconsin household residents were uninsured all year. The same procedure applies to the estimated number of people; adding and subtracting 26,000 from 275,000 yields a 95 percent confidence interval of 249,000 to 301,000 persons who were not covered by health insurance all year.

In some tables the percentage estimates would be expected to sum to 100 percent, but they do not. This is due to two factors: rounding to whole numbers, and omission of "no answer" categories. The "no answer" category includes refusals to answer and answers of "don't know." Information about the "no answer" or missing data category is presented in tables where it is a sizable percentage.

Appendix A

Abbreviated Interview Schedule 1997 Family Health Survey

The questions are presented here as if they were asked only of the respondent, but in fact, most questions were asked about each person living in the respondent's household. All questions were answered by the respondent on behalf of the other household members. The complicated skip patterns built into the interview schedule are not shown here (nor are the response categories); skip patterns are based on the answers to prior questions. This is a simplified version presented here for ease of understanding.

After determining who is the most knowledgeable person in the household (in matters related to the health of other household members), this person is selected to be the respondent and answers questions on behalf of everyone in the household. At the start of the interview, respondents are asked to list all persons living in the household and to give their first name, their relationship to the respondent, and their age and sex.

FAMILY HEALTH INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Overall, how satisfied are you with the health care available to you and your family? Would you say you are satisfied or dissatisfied?

Are you and your family worried about the cost of health care or not worried about the cost of health care?

How many persons live in your household counting all adults and children and including yourself?

I would like you to rate the general health of each person in your household. In general, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?

(The following questions are asked about adults aged 18 and older)

Do any of the adults in your household have trouble walking one block because of a health problem?
How long have you had this trouble?

Do any of the adults in your household have trouble walking uphill or climbing a few flights of stairs because of a health problem?
How long have you had this trouble?

Do any of the adults in your household have trouble bending, lifting or stooping because of a health problem?
How long have you had this trouble?

Do any of the adults in your household have trouble doing vigorous exercise or work, such as lifting heavy objects, running, or participating in strenuous sports because of a health problem?
How long have you had this trouble?

Does the health of any of the adults in your household keep them from working at a job, doing work around the house, or going to school?

How long have you had this trouble?

Do any of the adults in your household have trouble eating, dressing, bathing, or using the toilet because of a health problem?

How long have you had this trouble?

(end of adult only section)

Is there one particular clinic, health center, doctor's office or other place where you usually go for routine health care, such as minor illnesses or checkups?

Do you have two or more usual places to go for routine health care depending on the problem?

Has anyone in your household been unable to carry out their usual activities or missed work or school because of illness or some other health-related problem during the past two weeks, that is since *(date)*?

For how many days were you unable to do your usual activities or unable to go to work or school?

What was the health problem?

Did you see a medical doctor for the *(problem)* during the past two weeks, or not?

In the past twelve months, how many times have you seen a medical doctor for some health care or advice, not counting informal advice from relatives or friends who are medical doctors?

How long has it been since you last saw a medical doctor?

I'm going to read a list of other health professionals. For each one, please tell me whether or not anyone in your household has received some care or advice from them during the past twelve months. Please do not include professionals who gave informal advice, such as relatives or friends with medical training.

In the past 12 months who in your household has received some care or advice from a nurse or nurse practitioner?

In the past 12 months who in your household has received some care or advice from a physician assistant?

In the past 12 months who in your household has received some care or advice from a chiropractor?

In the past 12 months who in your household has received some care or advice from a physical therapist?

In the past 12 months who in your household has received some counseling or advice from a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional?

Many adults and children get a general physical examination or check-up once in a while. How long has it been since you had a general check-up for which an appointment had been made?

Who has stayed overnight in a hospital during the past 12 months, that is since *(date)*?

Who in your household has been treated at a hospital emergency room during the past 12 months, that is, since *(date)*?

About how many times in the past 12 months have you been treated in an emergency room?

Thinking about the time you were treated in an emergency room, did anyone call 911 before you went to the emergency room?

Were you taken by ambulance to the emergency room?

Did anyone call a doctor or nurse before you went to the hospital emergency room?

Were you told to go to an emergency room or to see a doctor first, or something else?

Thinking of the most recent time you were treated at an emergency room, did you go there because of an illness or an injury or something else?

Was this injury accidental or from an intentional act?

Were you treated at the emergency room mainly because it was a very serious or life threatening emergency or some other reason?

Were you treated at the emergency room outside of regular office hours, that is, at night, on a weekend or a holiday?

Was anyone treated at a walk-in clinic or urgent care center where you don't need an appointment, at least once during the past 12 months?

How many times were you treated at a walk-in clinic or urgent care center during the past 12 months?

Sometimes people have problems getting medical care when they need it. During the last 12 months, was there any time when you or anyone in your household needed medical care or surgery but did not get it?

Who in your household needed medical care or surgery in the past 12 months but did not get it since *(date one year ago)*?

Now I'd like to know about the last time each household member visited the dentist. How long ago did you last visit the dentist?

What was the reason you went to the dentist at that time? Was it a check-up, a problem, both or something else?

I'm going to read a list of common serious health problems. For each one, please tell me whether you or anyone in your household has ever been told by a doctor that they have it.

First, has anyone in your household ever been told by a doctor that they have arthritis?

Osteoporosis or brittle bones?

Cancer?

Emphysema or chronic bronchitis?

Asthma?
Any other lung disease or chronic breathing problem?
Diabetes?
High blood pressure or hypertension?
Stroke?
Heart disease?
Heart attack?
Any other chronic condition of the heart or circulatory problems?

(The following question was asked only from September to December of 1997 because of the start of a new state program.)

A new state program called W-2 provides assistance, such as job searches, employment, child care, and transportation to work. Is anyone in your household enrolled in the W-2 program?

(The following question was asked if there were children aged 0-17 in the household.)

Is anyone in your household enrolled in the AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) program?

(The following question was asked if there were children aged 0-5 or a female aged 17-40 in the household.)

Is anyone in your household enrolled in the WIC nutrition program which provides nutritious foods to women, infants and children?

Is anyone in your household receiving food stamps?

Is anyone in your household receiving Social Security payments?

Is anyone in your household receiving payments from SSI?

These next questions are about health insurance and other sources of payment for your household's medical care. Medicare is a Social Security health insurance program for persons 65 years and older and for disabled persons. Is anyone in your household enrolled in the Medicare program?

There is a government program called Medical Assistance or Medicaid or Title 19 that pays for health care for low income persons. Is anyone in this household NOW enrolled in Medical Assistance or Medicaid or Title 19?

Has anyone in the household been enrolled in the Medical Assistance program in the last 12 months?

What color is your Medical Assistance Card?

There is a government program called Healthy Start that provides health care for pregnant women and young children who might have problems paying for health care. Is anyone NOW enrolled in Healthy Start?

Has anyone in the household been enrolled in Healthy Start in the last 12 months?

What color is your Medical Assistance Card?

Now we want to ask some questions about health insurance coverage. Does anyone in your household have any private health insurance or hospital insurance plan which pays any part of a doctor bill or hospital bill, or any other medical costs? This includes insurance paid for by either you or an employer.

Is everyone in your household covered by a private health insurance or hospital insurance plan?

Are all the persons you named covered by the same health insurance plan?

Are you included in an employer group plan or is your plan some other kind of health insurance?

Does this health insurance plan pay for all, some, or none of the costs of general checkups and other preventive services, when those who are covered are not sick?

Is this plan an HMO or PPO? (health maintenance organization or preferred provider organization)

I am going to read three descriptions of different types of health care plans. After I have read all three, please tell me which one best describes the health plan that covers these people.

1. You can use any doctor you choose 2. You can use any doctor you choose but it costs more to use a doctor outside the plan, or 3. You can use only a doctor associated with the plan.

Have you been in this type of health plan for less than 12 months or more than 12 months?

Now I'd like to know about health insurance coverage during the past 12 months for each person living there. Thinking about all kinds of private and government health insurance, including Medicare, Medical Assistance, employer provided coverage, and insurance that you pay for, were you covered for all 12 months since (*month*), covered for part of that time or not covered at all by health insurance since (*date*).

In the past 2 years or so, has anyone in your household decided to stay in one job rather than take another job mainly because of reasons related to health benefits?

(The next question was asked about all household members aged 6 and older.)

What is the highest grade or level in school or college that you have completed?

(The next two questions were asked about all household members aged 18 and older.)

Are you now married, widowed, divorced, separated, never married, or a member of an unmarried couple?

Are you working full-time, working part-time, laid off or on strike, retired, unemployed and looking for work, unemployed and not looking for work, unable to work or disabled, keeping house, or a full-time student?

(The next two questions were asked only of adults who were working full-time or part-time.)

This question is about your longest job in the past 12 months. I'll read a list of different types of jobs. Which type best describes your job: sales; clerical; service; professional; technical; managerial; administrative; farming; craftsman; operating a machine; assembly work; driving; or laborer?

Thinking about your longest job in the past 12 months, were you working for wages, salary, or commissions as an employee of a private company, business, or individual; or a government employee; or self-employed in your own business, professional practice, or farm; or working without pay in the family business or farm?

Is your race White, Black, Asian, or American Indian?

Who, if anyone, in your household is of Hispanic origin...such as Mexican-American, Latin American, Puerto Rican or Cuban?

In what county is this residence located?

(Asked if residence is in Milwaukee County)

Is this residence in the city of Milwaukee?

What is your Zip code?

Do you live on a farm?

(The next series of questions was about household income. Respondents were asked two income questions depending on their household size. Answers to these questions are used to compute poverty status. Because this is a very complicated section with complex skip patterns, only one example is given here, based on a household of four.)

Thinking of the total income for everyone in your household from all sources in 1996, was that income less than \$16,000, between \$16,000 and \$31,000 or over \$31,000?

(If the respondent answers "over \$31,000", the following question is asked.)

Would you say that your household's total income in 1996 was less than \$35,000, between \$35,000 and \$40,000, between \$40,000 and \$50,000, between \$50,000 and \$75,000, or greater than \$75,000?

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